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QUALIFIED seeks comfortable berth in good provincial town; moderate salary; 22½; good Dispensing and General experience; abstainer; excellent references; outdoors preferred; disengaged end April. "L.," 166 Fore Street, Exeter.

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SUNDRIES, Photographic, or Instruments, as Assistant; 11 years' Retail experience; excellent references. 209/24, Office of this Paper.

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TRAVELLER: 36; Drugs, Sundries, or Specialities; tall, energetic, and of good address; highest references. Apply, "Drugs" (220/36), Office of this Paper.

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QUALIFIED Manager of a busy branch, with 10 years' sound Retail experience, seeks responsible position in Wholesale house; good references. 216/13, Office of this Paper.

RESIDENT Representative: North, South Wales, West England, Midlands; large personal connection, Drugs, Sundries; expenses; salary or commission. 177/46, Office of this Paper.

TRAVELLER.—Qualified Chemist; capable of increasing returns for good house; first-class record, experience of road, and references; disengaged. "S.," Flora House, Greenstead Road, Oolchester.

TRAVELLER, with 12 years' connection among Chemists and Surgeons, Lines, Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, Kent, Surrey, Sussex, Hants, desires situation; first class references. 224/29, Office of this Paper.

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PHARMACEUTICAL Chemist seeks responsible position in Wholesale Manufacturing Drug house; laboratory preferred; excellent qualifications and references; experienced administrator; tactful; attentive to minutiae; economist. "F. O. S." (219/17), Office of this Paper.

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GENTLEMEN unable to acquire a small business for "financial reasons," and those in danger of losing one from same cause (London district), are invited to address "Finance" (177/58), Office of this Paper.

AGENTS WANTED all over England, Scotland, and Ireland for the sale of specialities for the Chemists' and Druggists' trade:—Knives, scissors, razors, nail-scissors and nippers, manicure articles, massage instruments, &c.; high commission; many novelties. Only agents who have established connections need apply. Please address, with full particulars, 180/71, Office of this Paper.

FOR PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION. — "Translation of: Caesar," Book IV. (set for June, September, and December, 1905), 1s.; "The Latin Verb Made Easy," 1s.; "Problems in Algebra, and How to Work Them" (with sixty-four examples worked in full), 7d.; "How to Pass," 1½d.; all post free; the lot sent for 2s. 6d. Wilfrid E. Tims, Sidney Road, Leicester.

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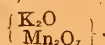
CHEMISTS' SECOND-HAND DRUG-FITTINGS, Drawers, Lockers, Shelves. Cornice 12 foot long, £12; Dispensing Counter, upright Perfumecase each side, mirror centre to ground, 6-foot long drawers at back, £10; 7-foot Wall-case, £10; Desk and Perfumecase, 50s.; 10-foot Counter, £3; Glass Shelves and Standards. Cheapest House for Secondhand Fittings. TREBLE & CO., Complete Shopfitters, Rectory Works, Rendlesham Road, Clapton, London, N.E.

Minor Experiences.

By a Welshman.

AFTER going through all the necessary formalities, I duly presented myself at the back of Bloomsbury Square. I was sent in the morning, along with some two dozen or more other candidates, to practical chemistry. I was given a powder which I was told was impure potassium permanganate. I was required to identify the impurity and then, by means of pure ferrous ammonium sulphate provided, to estimate the percentage of pure potassium permanganate present. The impurity, after about three-quarters of an hour's work, I found to be manganese dioxide and the amount practically 90 per cent. The salt was right, but the percentage, I was subsequently told on the second day, was rather low. In the afternoon (dispensing) I got a simple mixture containing inf. digitalis 3vj. to prepare, twenty pills each containing $\frac{1}{4}$ gr. of calx sulphurata, an emulsion containing 6 dr. of paraff. liq., 2 dr. of pulv. acaciae, and water to 2 oz.; also to prepare 250 c.c. of liq. plumbi subacet. fort. I had considerable difficulty with the emulsion, and I doubt whether a presentable mixture can be prepared in the above proportions. The rest of the paper I managed all right. This completed the first day's work, and I received in due course a notice that I was to attend for the oral examination.

In my first subject, materia medica, I was shown about three dozen specimens, among them being cinch. succirub., digitalis-leaves, hamamelis-leaves, Smyrna opium, English rhubarb, black catechu, conium-fruit, stramonium and strophanthus seeds, fennel-fruit, cevadilla, and practically all the common seeds. Asked the composition of digitalis, what is digitalin; composition of fennel; nux vomica, method of estimating amount of strychnine in liq. extract, separation of strychnine from brucine. This completed my first subject, and I thought I had done fairly well. I was kept waiting nearly an hour before being called up for my second subject (chemistry). The examiner asked me a few questions on my first day's work—e.g., to write down the formula for pot. permang. Not knowing any other, I wrote down $K_2Mn_2O_7$, but he said there is a better way of writing it, viz.



Among other questions he asked me the action of reducing agents on pot. permang. in presence of acids, also about the oxides of Mn, which oxide is $MnCl_2$, prepared from action of HCl on pot. permang.; nitro-benzene formula, how prepared, uses in trade; aniline, how prepared, formula, class of substances it belonged to, physical appearance, etc. This finished what I thought an easy examination in chemistry.

In my next subject (botany) I was shown straight off about nine or ten slides, and at the same time got questions on almost every one. Among the slides were section of a leaf showing palisade and spongiform tissue; dicot. and monocot stems, how did I distinguish them; functions of pitted vessels; pine-stem with resin ducts; stigma with pollen; section of a composite flower, etc. I was shown some fresh lavender and euphorbia in flower. I was kept waiting again a considerable time before I was called up to pharmacy. Here I was shown a colourless liquid which I recognised as spt. ammon. aromat., had to tell how it is prepared, object in distilling the oils with the alcohol, what is left in the retort after distilling, and composition of the second distillate. I said it was nearly pure water, but the examiner said that was wrong. Next shown some pil. hydrarg., composition and strength; the same about pil. rhei. co.; how is glyc. acid. boric. prepared; is it a definite compound—if so, what is it called?; tinct. opii, strength of morphine, how prepared, and precautions in selling.

In my next and last subject I got a calculation—"how many grams of atrop. sulph. are there in four fluid ounces of liq. atrop. sulph., B.P.?" I had no difficulty with this. Next I was given two difficult prescriptions to translate from English to full Latin, also about three or four illegible ones to read. After being asked about three dozen doses, chiefly poisonous, I was told to go and sit down, and in a few minutes the President called me up and told me I had passed. I was very glad to have it over: it is an experience which I should not like to repeat very often. The examination, taking it through and through, I found very fair, and the examiners, without exception, all that could be expected. (194/28.)

The foregoing is an exceptionally well-written account, the penmanship being good and the expression fair. We would advise students and candidates to be more particular in referring to articles by abbreviations. "Pot. permang." is not a nice way to put it; and formulae such as HCl should never be used to define a common chemical. Some examiners are as great sinners as candidates in this respect. The next experience will be that of a Londoner.

Exchange Column—Bargains.

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Last editions, post free.—"Pharmacopædia," 9s.; "Lowson," 3s. 4d.; "Newth," 3s. 10d.; "Southall," 4s.; "Lucas," 7s.; "Green," vol 1, 3s. 10d.; "Maisch," 5s. 6d. JACKSON, 2 Queen Street, Belfast.

First reasonable offer.—Remsen's "Organic," Newth's "Inorganic," "British Pharmacopœia," Vine's "Botany," Ganot's "Physics" (both large), Greenish, Whiteley's "Calculations"; all as new. "Bxc," 29 Fasset Square, Dalston, N.E.

"Art of Dispensing," 2s.; Roscoe & Lunt's "Inorganic," 1s.; Stainer's "Chemistry," 1s.; Everitt's "Physics," 2s. 6d.; Knight's "Pharmacy," 2s. 6d.; Whiteley's "Calculations," 1s. 3d.; Jago's "Inorganic," 1s. 3d.; Wills' "Analysis," 1s.; Wills' "Volumetric Analysis," 1s.; Kipping's "Organic," 3s. 6d. GRIFFITHS, 4 Chapel Road, Lad-broke Grove.

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ESTABLISHED 1859.

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Telegraphic Address: "Chemicus London."

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THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST is supplied by subscription to the whole of the members of EIGHTEEN CHEMISTS' SOCIETIES in the British Empire, including Ireland, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, and the West Indies. Besides, its paid subscription circulation at home and to all parts of the civilised world is intrinsically and numerically unique.

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is the best in the world, and is held by the Mother Country. This is true generally, and especially in regard to business in chemicals, drugs, and all other druggists' goods and allied products. There is no better way of getting this business than by advertising in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, and no better time to begin, or to do it well, than in

The Colonial Issue of April 22.

The remarkable advantage of advertising in the Colonial Issue is that the advertisements carry with them an *imprimatur* which is the result of more than a generation of friendly business relations between THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST and the majority of chemists in Greater Britain, who look to its advertisement pages for particulars of the goods they want to buy.

Summary.

The subjoined paragraphs give the gist of the more important matters in this issue, with the object of showing at a glance what has happened during the week. See also "Contents" in the first column.

THE latest store prices for chemists' goods are mentioned on p. 533.

MR. JESSE BOOT'S latest utterance on the Pharmacy Bill will be found on p. 550.

THE trouble in the West Riding Federation about Council candidates is not waning (p. 544).

THE PRESENT POSITION of the Rankin's ointment cases is summarised in paragraphs on p. 532.

ARTIST AND RHYMER combine this week in heralding the birth of a chemists' association at York (p. 535).

THE TRADE CASES in our legal reports section are of considerable importance on questions of custom (p. 541).

THE experiences of a Welsh candidate who was successful in the Minor examination will be found in the Coloured Supplement.

ANOTHER DEATH from sulphonal has been investigated. This is one of the articles to be scheduled as a poison (p. 533).

COD-LIVER OIL has dropped to 80s. a barrel in first hands this week, and we discuss the market position in an article on p. 549.

THE AUSTRALIAN MAIL trouble is now at an end, and it is reported that the weekly mail service will be resumed this week (p. 532).

MANY QUERISTS will find several columns of replies in this issue. They include legal and practical topics, with numerous formulas (pp. 563-5).

THE CULTIVATION of medicinal herbs in Orange River Colony has been recommended by a Commission appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor (p. 565).

CHELTENHAM waters (with a cartoon) and the Spas of the British Isles are subjects of papers read to associations during the past week (p. 544 and p. 545).

SIR MICHAEL HICKS-BEACH is eminently a person to be left alone in regard to the Pharmacy Bill. Bristol chemists have learnt this after a second rebuff (p. 544).

THE STATE OF THE PHARMACY BILL has been described by Mr. Robinson this week. He is more sanguine of ultimate success and deprecates further compromise. See p. 536 and p. 554.

THE death of Mr. Alfred Preston, J.P. (formerly of Hodgkinson, Prestons & King), and of Mr. C. J. Strother, a well-known London drug-traveller, are reported (p. 552).

AN EFFECT of the additions to the poisons schedule recorded on p. 537 will likely be the disuse of acetanilide as a headache powder, at least for sale by unqualified persons (p. 548).

SIR THOMAS STEVENSON, in his report on the pharmaceutical examination, attributes the improvement in the Minor to "the fewer number" of hopeless candidates who presented themselves (p. 536).

THE PROPOSED POISON ORDINANCE for the Straits Settlements is making progress, but there is dissatisfaction amongst European chemists who have not been consulted about it (p. 550).

"XRAYSER'S" TOPICS this week are Parliament and the Pharmacy Bill, Mrs. Lane's article "Tooth-powder or gunpowder," a "Lancet" article on prescribing chemists, and the decay of Brooke, Simpson & Spiller's business (p. 547).

BESIDES the seven members who are retiring from the Pharmaceutical Council, and who seek re-election, five other members of the Society would like to get on, viz. Messrs. W. Giles, C. E. Pickering, F. P. Sargeant, F. W. Truman, and R. C. Walshaw (p. 537).

THE POISONS SCHEDULE has been further extended this week by the Pharmaceutical Council on the lines suggested by the Departmental Committee on this subject, but effect is not given to the recommendations as to agricultural, horticultural, and industrial poisons (p. 537 and p. 548).

THE chief alterations in drugs and chemicals include a reduction of 1d. in "official" quinine and an advance in santonin. Cod-liver oil is weak and lower, vanilla is easier, and soda tart is lower. Another maker has joined the cocaine "ring," and an advance would not be surprising. Business is very dull (p. 557).

English News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the Trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Brevities.

Mr. Francis Sutton, F.C.S., pharmaceutical chemist, has been reappointed public analyst for Norfolk.

The new Electro-Technic Laboratory in connection with the Liverpool University will be opened on July 8 by Sir Joseph Wilson Swan.

At the Hull Licensing Sessions on March 29 an off wine-and-spirit licence was granted to Mr. Harold Miller, chemist and druggist, of 16 Anlaby Road.

Mr. H. V. Kirkham, B.Sc.(Lond.), has been appointed assistant analyst at the Essex Education Committee's Laboratories, at 90*l.* per annum.

Arthur Eddy, who served an apprenticeship to a chemist at Helston, in Cornwall, was again remanded at Bow Street on April 3 on charges of obtaining 1,202*l.* by false pretences from a Mr. Clatworthy, of Plymouth.

The Essex County Council on April 4 rejected a recommendation that Dr. Bernard Dyer should be appointed public analyst at a fee of 300*l.* a year with 5*s.* for each sample analysed. It was resolved to advertise the appointment.

At the "Old Exeter" Trades Exhibition, now being held at the Victoria Hall, Exeter, Mr. Weston Aplin, chemist, 60 High Street, Exeter, has an attractive stand of perfumes and toilet-requisites. He is also exhibiting the new physio-type process.

At the Cardiff Licensing Sessions on March 29, off wine-licences were confirmed to Mr. David Anthony, chemist and druggist, and to Mr. W. G. Duck, chemist and druggist, on undertakings being given that sales should be limited to proprietary medicated wines.

At a meeting of the London County Council on April 4, it was agreed to consent to the erection of a two-storey building at Stafford Street, Peckham (on the application of Mellins Food Co., Ltd.), and to the erection of a one-storey addition to No. 49 High Street, Notting Hill, for Boots, Ltd.

An inquest was held at Stratford, on March 30, touching the death of Charles Attwood (14), who was killed by being caught in a shaft at Messrs. J. T. Hunt & Co.'s chemical-factory. The principal witness was the boy's father, who is employed at the same factory. A verdict of accidental death was returned.

At Scarborough on April 3, William Ellis (14), errand-boy, was charged with stealing 15*s.* belonging to his employers, Messrs. Milburn's, Ltd., chemists, 3 Westborough, Scarborough. The lad was bound over under the First Offenders Act, and the costs (10*s.*) were paid by the manager, Mr. Helmslow.

At the Pontypridd Police Court on Wednesday, April 5, a young collier named John Baker was charged on his own confession with having attempted to commit suicide with laudanum which he had obtained at the shop of Boots Cash Chemists, from Mr. J. S. Davies, the manager: this name we do not find on the register of chemists and druggists. Baker was committed for trial.

At Tunbridge Wells on March 25, a solicitor representing Mr. Frederick Fowler, oil and colour man, informed the Bench that it had been finally decided to appeal to the King's Bench Division against a conviction of the defendant by the Magistrates in December last respecting the sale of Glauber's salt in "soda crystals" (see *C. & D.*, December 17, 1904, p. 978). The necessary recognisances were entered into, and the case has been lodged in the High Court.

In his annual report to the Norfolk County Council, which was considered on April 1, the county analyst, Mr. Francis Sutton, referring to the question of analyses for agriculturists, said the reasons that small farmers do not take advantage of the Act are chiefly apathy and lack of information, business relations between buyer and seller, and the necessity of giving the seller notice of intention to take samples; expenses; delay; the alleged inconvenience of the regulations; and the necessity of sending the invoice to the analyst.

Australian Mails.

The difficulty as to the carriage of the Australian mails, which has arisen out of the application of the "White Australia" doctrine, has now, it appears, been met by a compromise between the Federal Government and the Orient Pacific Co. A Reuter despatch from Melbourne says that the Federal Cabinet has authorised Mr. Smith, the Postmaster-General, to accept the Orient Pacific Co.'s offer of a fortnightly mail service between Australia and England for an annual subsidy of 120,000*l.*, or 30,000*l.* less than the company's original tender. The agreement is subject to the approval of the Commonwealth Parliament, but there does not seem to be any reasonable doubt that it will be ratified in due course. The re-establishment of this fortnightly service, which will alternate with the existing fortnightly service of the P. and O. Co., restores to Australia the weekly delivery of mails which, in the interests of her trade with the Mother Country, it is highly desirable that she should have.

Labelling Medicines.

A controversy is going on in the Bristol Press relative to the labelling of medicines by chemists and druggists. Mr. O. C. M. Davis, of University College, takes up cudgels on their behalf. He replies forcibly to a medical practitioner who hides his identity behind the signature of "Verbum Sap." He holds that it is not a very grievous error on the part of the pharmacist to place no date on labels, providing, as is almost always the case, that he uses a number which corresponds to a mark made on the prescription. As a class, says Mr. Davis, pharmacists discharge their responsible duties to prescriber and patient alike with great accuracy, and it is the exception rather than the rule to find a pharmacist, in compounding or in writing directions, neglect, either wilfully or through carelessness, to carry out the intention of the physician.

Contracts.

Barnstaple Workhouse.—Mr. J. P. Inch, chemist and druggist, for cod-liver oil at 5*s.* per gal. and quinine at 1*s.* 4½*d.* per oz.

Birkenhead Workhouse.—Messrs. Evans Sons Lescher & Webb, Ltd., Liverpool, for drugs.

Burton-on-Trent Workhouse.—Liverpool Lint Co., for surgical appliances.

Peterborough Workhouse.—Mr. T. J. Calcutt, chemist and druggist, Peterborough, for pharmaceutical requirements.

St. Giles (Bloombsbury) Guardians.—Messrs. C. J. Hewlett & Son, Charlotte Street, E.C., for drugs.

St. Pancras Borough Council.—Savannah Chemical Co., Hackney Wick, N.E., for soluble creosote or disinfectant-fluid, 5½*d.* per gal.; Messrs. Burt, Boulton & Haywood, Ltd., 64 Cannon Street, E.C., for disinfectant pine fluid, 9*d.* per gal.; Messrs. Adcock, Easton & Co., Finsbury, N., disinfectant pine blocks in tins, 1*l.* 5*s.* per cwt., and carbolic powder, 2*s.* 1½*d.* per cwt.

The Leggett Cases.

A good deal of surprise has been occasioned among Leeds and Bradford chemists by the abandonment of the appeal in the case of Leggett *v.* Dutton. The course now contemplated is that an application should be made to the Leeds Stipendiary Magistrate to give his judgment in Leggett *v.* Brown; that Mr. Dutton at Bradford should pay his fine and costs, and so clear that case out of the way; and that the numerous additional cases at Leeds and Bradford should be held over by general consent until the decision of the Leeds Stipendiary Magistrate has been given. It is believed that whatever the Leeds decision may be, it will be appealed against by one side or the other.

The Leeds Stipendiary Magistrate will give his judgment on Thursday, April 13, and all the defendants in the Rankin's ointment and Easton's syrup cases at Leeds have been warned to be in readiness to proceed with their cases if an application for adjournment, which is expected to be opposed, should fail.

The remaining Bradford cases are to come up at the Bradford City Police Court on Friday, April 14. An application will then be made on behalf of the defendants for the adjournment of all the cases pending the decision in

the Leeds case, but it is quite likely that the application will be opposed on behalf of Mr. Leggett, and the defendants have received warning that they must be prepared for a full hearing of the cases on that day, if the application on their behalf should be refused.

The Dangers of Sulphonal.

At an inquest held at Wimbledon, on April 1, on the body of Benjamin James Baldwin, a compositor, the evidence showed that the deceased suffered from insomnia, and was in the habit of taking sulphonal tabloids. He was found unconscious in bed, and beside him a cup which contained a white powder, deceased having usually crushed up the sulphonal before taking it. He died thirty-six hours after being found. Dr. Evans said that from the *post-mortem* he could find no actual cause of death, but he had come to the conclusion that death was due to poisoning by sulphonal. Deceased, he said, must have taken a very large dose. One ounce of sulphonal had poisoned, but 3 oz. had not, so uncertain was the drug. It was not a drug that should be on the market or for public sale. Ten to fifteen grains was the usual dose. The Coroner (Dr. Michael Taylor) said the Pharmacopœia gave 40 grains, but sulphonal was so dangerous and uncertain in its effects that doctors after using it had had to abandon it for some older remedy—perhaps a hundred years old—or some newer one. The jury returned a verdict of death by misadventure, and suggested that difficulties should be put in the way of purchasing sulphonal tabloids. The Coroner agreed, saying that there were certain drugs which could be purchased at any oil-shop a pennyworth of which would poison half the jurymen. The foreman said more restrictions should be put on the sale of drugs.

S.V.M. in the I.O.M.

Remarkable evidence has been given before a Committee of the Manx House of Keys concerning the growth of the habit among the poorest classes in Douglas of drinking methylated spirit. Drs. Mackenzie and Marshall said that in certain districts it was a common practice for people to get methylated spirit on Sundays, when the public-houses were closed, and get drunk with this. They strongly advised that restrictions should be put on the sale. The Bill before the Manx Legislature proposes to prohibit the sale of any quantity less than 2 gals. The Committee will report to the House of Keys.

Sheffield Notes.

The Sheffield Pharmacy Football Club played the Wath Club at Wath on March 30, and were handsomely beaten by six goals to one.

Mr. J. M. Furness, chemist and druggist, of Fitzwilliam Street, presided at the successful smoking-concert, promoted by the committee of the Sheffield Royal Grammar School Old Boys' Association, and held at the King's Head Hotel on April 1.

We mentioned a short time ago the retirement from business of Mr. John Hewitt, chemist and druggist, of Division Street. Since that event Mr. Hewitt has been working off his surplus energy at golf. Unfortunately he strained the muscles of his heart, and has been very seriously ill for over a fortnight. He has a large circle of friends in Sheffield and district, who will be pleased to know that he is now practically out of danger.

Birmingham Notes.

It is stated that Birmingham has finally decided upon two days for the early closing—in the centre Saturday, and in the suburbs Wednesday afternoons.

Several drysalts and oilmen have been fined this week for (a) keeping benzoline in improper vessels and (b) keeping petrol without acquainting the authorities of the fact.

In the allocation of some 70,000*l.* bequeathed to public institutions and hospitals the Eye-hospital, Edmund Street, was left out in the cold. The City Council were the distributors on behalf of the gentlemen who left the money.

The question of whether smoking may be indulged in during the reading of scientific papers before societies has been settled in Birmingham by the Chemical Club. While the paper is being read, and during the discussion, from President to lanternist all worship at the shrine of Nicotiana.

Messrs. Boots had a conspicuous free advertisement on one of the sunny days last week, when there was stretched across New Street roadway the legend "Boots Cash Chemists" in shadow form and inverted. Perhaps some student in optics can explain the problem and design a similar scheme for advertising as a permanency.

Local hospital reports are much in evidence just now, and it must make the pharmacist's mouth water to see such an enormous amount of grist being diverted into other directions than his mill. The Skin-hospital, John Bright Street, has enlarged its dispensary to nearly twice its former size, and "modern appliances have been introduced to facilitate the dispensing of medicines on a large scale."

Nottingham Notes.

The quarterly report of the Nottingham City analyst (Mr. S. R. Trotman), presented to the City Council on Monday, showed that of 116 samples analysed, only 11 were adulterated. These consisted of butter 4, milk 3, mustard 2, fish-paste 1, and paregoric elixir (deficient in alcohol 5 per cent.) 1.

The annual report of the Nottingham University College Council, presented to the City Council on Monday, stated that the number of students in the chemistry department continued to increase rapidly, and the present accommodation in the laboratories is taxed so severely that an early extension of the buildings is absolutely necessary.

Store-prices.

The alterations in prices and additions to the price-list of the Army and Navy Stores for April include the following:

Boric-acid ointment, 1*s.* per 1 lb. jar; cod-liver oil (finest Norwegian), 6*s.* 4*d.* per gal.; veterinary, 5*s.* per gal.; cod-liver oil emulsion, 10*d.* per 8-oz. bot., 1*s.* 6*d.* per 16-oz. bot.; guttapercha tissue, 7½*d.* per ¼-yard box, 1*s.* 2*d.* per yard; zinc ointment, 1*s.* 2*d.* per 1-lb. jar; "perfected" tooth-brushes (extra hard), 8½*d.* each; cotton-wool (unbleached), 8*d.* per lb.; Botot's eau dentifrice, 2*s.* and 6*s.* 8*d.* per bot.; tooth-powder, 11*d.* and 2*s.* per pot; and tooth-paste, 9*d.* and 1*s.* 10*d.* per jar; dental-plane brushes, 9*d.* each; soda-silicate solution (1 to 9), 8*d.* per quart tin, 2*s.* 3*d.* per gal. tin.

Spiers & Pond's prices on April 3 for the articles named were as follows:

Advanced.—Allen's hair-restorer, 4*s.* per bot.; zylbalsamum, 2*s.* 6*d.* per bot.; Emerson's Bromo-seltzer, 1*s.*, 2*s.*, and 4*s.* per bot.; Frazer's tablets, 1*s.* per box; Gibbs's shaving-sticks, 9½*d.* each; Nichol's food, 7½*d.* per packet; Nichol's soap, 1*s.* 3*d.* per box; Sanatogen, 2*s.* 8*d.*, 4*s.* 9*d.*, and 9*s.* per tin; Thialion, 4*s.* 3*d.* per bot.; Truefit's Euchrisma, 2*s.* 8*d.* and 3*s.* 9*d.* per bot.

Reduced.—Bishop's effervescent piperazine, 3*s.* 8*d.* per bot.; Bridal Bouquet Bloom, 2*s.* per bot.; Crème Simon, 2*s.* 2*d.* per pot; Eucryl tooth-powder, 10½*d.* per 1*s.* tin; sugar of milk, 9*d.* per lb.

Added.—Erasmic shaving-sticks, 1*s.* each; Holly court-plaster (tricoloured perforated), 4½*d.* per packet; Pasta Mack soap, 2*s.* 3*d.* per box; Maubert's toilet-soaps (various), 1*s.* per box.

Cook's glycerine, honey, and rose soap (8*d.* per box) and lanoline shaving-cream (8*d.* tubes) have been withdrawn from stock.

Suicide of an Assistant.

Walter Yeomans Partridge, a married man aged forty-three, employed as an assistant and traveller by Mr. Evans C. Ashford, chemist and druggist, of Gold Street and St. James's End, Northampton, committed suicide in Mr. Ashford's shop in Gold Street, Northampton, on March 31, by taking prussic acid. At the inquest on April 1 Mr. Ashford deposed that deceased had been employed by him as traveller and assistant in the shop for four or five months. On Friday morning witness suspected the deceased of dishonesty in regard to some goods sold, and he spoke to him kindly about the matter. Deceased acknowledged the accusation and asked for forgiveness. Witness expressed his willingness to forgive him. Half an hour later witness found the deceased lying dead in the drug-room, with a bottle which had contained prussic acid by his side. The acid had been taken from the poison-cupboard at the back of the shop. In reply to questions by the jury, Mr. Ashford stated that he paid the deceased 25*s.* per week and commission. The commission would average about 3*s.* a week. A verdict of suicide during temporary insanity was returned.

The Week's Poisonings.

Seventeen deaths by poisoning have been reported since last week, of which twelve were suicidal. Thomas Reynolds, living at Colville Square, W., drank a quantity of tincture of opium in mistake for tincture of ginger. A young lady living at Kingston-on-Thames saw a recipe in a newspaper for cooking rhubarb-leaves after the manner of spinach, tried the experiment, and died of gastro-enteritis as the result. Harriet Bolam, servant, of New-castle, died of an overdose of laudanum. She had been suffering from insomnia and neuralgia.—The two unscheduled poisons taken by suicides were unusual. A mixture of bichromate of potassium and sulphuric acid for an electric battery was taken by a young woman of Burnley. Turpentine varnish was the cause of the death at the York Workhouse of Elizabeth Hopwood (75).—A Dean Forest sheepowner, Frederick Hyett (40), died after taking a large quantity of sheep-dip.—Carbolic acid was the cause of the death of Edith Derham (27), a Bootle hospital nurse. A Wandsworth sculptor, Edward Whiting (56), committed suicide by taking potassium cyanide. He told the chemist from whom he bought half an ounce of the poison that he had enough poison in his workshop to kill fifty people.—Four suicides took prussic acid. Dr. John Norton, a Bristol medical man, took it, and Miss S. M. Adams, a matron of Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge. The hospital dispenser deposed at the inquest that he had not served the deceased with any prussic acid, and it would have been impossible, he thought, for her to have obtained any without his knowledge. None of the nurses had access to the dispensary.—Elizabeth Welsh, of South Shields, daughter of a Jarrow herbalist, died from this poison. At the inquest Mr. W. Prevell, manager for Mr. Giles, chemist, Market Square, Jarrow, deposed that he served the herbalist's housekeeper with the acid for the purpose of poisoning a dog, and for which she signed the poisons-book. Oxalic acid was taken by Isabella Walker (62).—A bottle containing laudanum was found near the dead body of Samuel Creeland of Sheffield.—Laudanum likewise caused the death of Mary Ann Steven-ton (66), of Loughborough.—At an inquest held at Sheffield on April 5, on the body of Nellie Creswick (24), it was stated that death was due to lead-poisoning. The woman had been taking pills given her by a medical man, and the inquiry was adjourned in order that the pills might be analysed.—Thomas Dobson (36), a Newcastle licensed victualler, poisoned himself with an overdose of a mixture containing chloral, digitalis, and bromide of potassium.

Irish News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the Trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Analyst Reappointed.

The Ardee Board of Guardians have reappointed Mr. W. Thorp as analyst at the remuneration of 4s. a sample.

Bad Air.

In consequence of complaints as to the ventilation of the Belfast Assize Courts, the High Sheriff (Dr. O'Neill) requested Mr. Robert F. Blake to collect and examine samples of the air. The analyst found that the air contained eight parts of carbon dioxide in 10,000, which seems to show that the ventilation is bad.

Personal.

Mr. John McBirney, M.P.S.I., of Kilkeel, writing in reference to the Pharmacy Act case reported in our last issue (p. 517), says he was not absent from his shop for six months, but for six weeks—viz., from January 29 to March 10.

At the Board meeting of the Governors of Dr. Steeven's Hospital on March 28, Mr. Henry Carson Smyth, L.P.S.I., Preston Terrace, Abbeylax, Queen's co., and late of Messrs. Hamilton, Long & Co., Ltd., Rathmines, Dublin, was unanimously elected apothecary, out of a large number of candidates.

Doctor and Manservant Drowned.

Dr. G. J. Lough, of Newton Cashel, co. Longford, formerly of Wellington Square, Hastings, and his man-

servant, Michael Scully, were drowned in Gailley Bay, Lough Ree, last week. The boat capsized during a hail-storm. Dr. Lough was a cousin of Mr. Thomas Lough, M.P., the introducer of the Pharmacy Bill into the House of Commons.

Business Changes.

Mr. A. F. Dougan, druggist, Old Park Road, Belfast, has been appointed sub-postmaster of the branch Post Office at Finiston, Old Park Road, and is removing there in a few weeks.

Mr. H. Harrison, L.P.S.I., late of Messrs. John Evans, State Apothecaries, Dublin, has purchased the pharmacy at Bridge Street, Dromore, lately conducted by Mr. J. B. Sweeney, of that town.

Sheep-dips for Sheep-scab.

Under the Sheep-scab Orders made on March 28, 1905, by the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland, the use of sheep-dips approved by the Department is required. The Sheep Scab (Ireland) Order of 1905 contains three prescriptions for dips which the Department have approved after experimental trials. The Department are prepared to receive applications from manufacturers of any sheep-dip for their approval of its use for sheep-scab, and have arranged that any analytical examination necessary to verify the stated composition of the dips submitted to them shall be made at the Government laboratory in London. Forms of application for the approval of a dip may be obtained from the Secretary, Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland (Veterinary Branch), Dublin.

Drug-contracts.

The committee of the Sligo District Asylum has accepted the tender of Mr. H. Boyers, Sligo, for drugs and appliances.

The Clonakilty Guardians have appointed the Cork Chemical and Drug Co. contractors for both drugs and surgical appliances.

Messrs. Sumner & Co. (Liverpool) have been appointed contractors for surgical appliances (33½ per cent. discount) to the Malloow Guardians.

The Killaloe Guardians have appointed the Cork Chemical and Drug Co. and Messrs. Adamson & Co. (Ballina) contractors for drugs and appliances respectively.

The County Kildare Infirmary Committee have accepted the tender of Messrs. John Clarke & Co., of Dublin, for medicines, and of the Medical Supply Association, Dublin, for appliances.

The Strokestown Board of Guardians has accepted the tenders of Messrs. Sumner & Co., Liverpool, for appliances at 33½ per cent., and the Medical Supply Association, Dublin, for drugs, at 32½ per cent.

The Local Government Board has sanctioned the action of the Tullamore Guardians in giving the contract for medical appliances to the Medical Supply Association, Dublin, although Messrs. Sumner & Co., Liverpool, sent in a lower tender.

Messrs. Clarke & Co. (Dublin) have been appointed drug-contractors to the Glenamaddy Guardians, and the Cork Chemical and Drug Co. have obtained the contract for surgical appliances. The discount allowed by the contractors is 28¼ per cent.

The Local Government Board has written to the Monaghan Board of Guardians stating that Messrs. Sumner & Co., Liverpool, who sent in the lowest contract for drugs, had proved satisfactory as contractors in recent years, and suggesting that the guardians should accept their tender. The Board refused to comply with the suggestion.

Scotch News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the Trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

The Kinninmont Prize.

Intending competitors are reminded that the last date when their names can be received is April 30. Mr. W. L. Currie, 223 Byres Road, Downhill, Glasgow, will supply all particulars of the scope of the examination.

Personal.

Captain Archibald Wood (whose wife, one of the Spence family, is a chemist and druggist) was on April 3 admitted a burgess and freeman of the Royal burgh of Linlithgow.

Claims.

It is officially intimated that claims on the estate of the late Mr. A. B. Anderson, chemist and druggist, 38 and 201 Princes Street, and 121 Blackcroft, Dundee, should be sent to Mr. Marshall Anderson, 30 Princes Street, Dundee, forthwith.

Glasgow Notes.

Mr. R. L. Whitehead, of 388 Victoria Road, Glasgow, has been appointed resident representative in Scotland for Messrs. Harrison & Waide, medical-label printers, of Leeds.

The remarks of Dr. MacIntosh, the Superintendent of the Glasgow Western Infirmary, on the doubtful economy of the manufacture of galenicals, etc., by hospitals for their own use, has excited lively controversy. In two local hospitals, on the dispensers' initiative, the manufacture of some galenicals has been introduced, with a consequent saving of hundreds of pounds annually.

The Co-operative Problem in Aberdeen.

Mr. A. W. Henderson, chemist and druggist, 38 Rosemount Viaduct, Aberdeen, has sold his drug-business to the Northern Co-operative Co., Ltd. This company did business in 1904 amounting to 620,000*l.*, paid a dividend of 3*s.* 5*d.* per 1*l.*, and at the half-yearly meeting held last week the Chairman stated that the profits earned during the past six months were 57,757*l.* The company has branches all over the city, and this start in the drug-line by the purchase of a chemist's business has not put the other worshippers of Galen in a particularly cheerful frame of mind; but the philosophic think that if the Co-op. can make 3*s.* 5*d.* in the pound why should not they?

Botany of Fife and Forfar.

The botanical survey of Forfar and Fife undertaken by Dr. W. G. Smith, University of Leeds, and his brother, the late Robert Smith, of University College, Dundee, forms the latest reprint from the "Scottish Geographical Magazine."

Professor I. B. Balfour, Edinburgh, has just published in the "Botanical Garden Notes" the results of his researches into the life, history, writings, and contemporary appreciations of George Don. It is just 100 years since Don was head gardener in the Botanical Gardens there.

A story is now going round the Press to the effect that a Forfarshire botanist bewailed the fact that he had never seen belladonna in flower. At last he found a specimen in the Cambridge University herbarium, and to his horror observed that it had been collected not very far from his home in his native county.

French News.

(From our Paris Correspondent.)

THE ALCHEMIST'S LABORATORY.—An alchemist's laboratory forms an interesting scene of the play "Le Meilleur Parti," now being played at the Théâtre Antoine at Paris.

A SCIENTIFIC MAN'S NAME.—M. Metchnikoff, of the Pasteur Institute, Paris, has summoned a Paris manufacturer for using his name in connection with the sale of a pharmaceutical product without authority, and has obtained an injunction against the manufacturer.

THE NUN PHARMACIST AGAIN.—On Tuesday last Adjutant Trochain, of the 27th Regiment of Artillery, at the Douai Military Hospital, received a cocaine injection. Tetanus set in a few moments: he died after six hours of horrible agony. It appears that the nun who has charge of the pharmacy had made an error, and used three grams of cocaine instead of the three centigrams prescribed.

UNDER FALSE COLOURS.—A watch and a purse were stolen from a resident in the rue du Havre, Paris, last week by a rather novel trick. An individual purporting to be the porter from a neighbouring pharmacy rang the bell of the apartment and tendered a small box, saying, "I have brought these pills ordered from the Pharmacie Normale; kindly inquire if there is any message to be sent back." Leaving the individual in the hall, the maid went to make the necessary inquiry, but when she returned the man had

disappeared, taking with him the watch and purse that were in a room near the hall.

COSMOPOLITAN PHARMACY AT NICE.—During a short visit I paid to the Riviera a few days ago I noticed that the cosmopolitan character of that privileged district seems to increase yearly. The German element may increase as the English lessens. One is offered the "Riviera Tageblatt" in the Avenue de la Gare nowadays instead of the good old "Galignani," and posters in German are common, while Siegfried Wagner gives concerts at the Casino. But although the title "Deutsche Apotheke" becomes more and more conspicuous, pharmacy remains very English. One I entered. I could hardly believe I was not in a British chemist's, shop-fittings, showcases, photo-cards, goods, all were so characteristically Anglican; but the proprietor was the swarthiest of Southerners, and the painted ceiling showed the near neighbourhood of fair Italy. Many pharmacies—I noticed this more particularly around the Russian church—have inscriptions in characters wonderfully and fearfully made, stating they are capable of grappling with Muscovite prescriptions. But for real cosmopolitan pharmacy I would select a modern *officine* which I passed a little further on my way to the Promenade des Anglais. Neat cards in the window announced (in English) "English dispenser—English drugs—English prices." Some first-class American marks of pharmaceutical goods were stocked and conspicuously announced, while English, French, and other sundries filled the windows; the Russian inscription already referred to being balanced by packets of Japanese curl-papers and the Eagle of the Czars and the British Lion adorning various show-bottles.

Westminster Wisdom.

(From our Parliamentary Representative.)

THE PHARMACY BILL.

This measure stands second on the evening orders for April 11, but it would be as idle to speculate about its chances as about the duration of the next Government.

SALE OF POISONS.

On Tuesday evening Sir Thomas Dewar returned to the question of the sale of poisons, asking the Home Secretary (Mr. Akers-Douglas), "having regard to the frequency of suicides by poison and the loss of life through the administration of poisons by misadventure, will he state whether the Government still propose to amend the law regulating the sale of poisons; and, if so, whether there is any probability of a Bill being introduced by the Government this Session?" To this the Home Secretary replied: "I fear that on this subject I cannot add anything to the reply which I gave to the hon. member on March 13 last."

REGISTRATION OF NURSES.

There is now before the House of Commons a Bill to provide for the registration of nurses, but on March 31 it was agreed to appoint a Select Committee to consider the expediency of providing for such registration.

NEW BILLS.

Among the Bills recently introduced is one by Mr. Broadhurst to stop compulsory vaccination, and another by Mr. Hayes Fisher to exempt hospitals in London from payment of local rates. Mr. Emmott has introduced a Registration of Firms Bill.

NITROGEN-PRODUCING BACTERIA.

Replying to Sir Walter Palmer on Wednesday regarding experiments in America with nitrogen-producing bacteria, Mr. Ailwyn Fellowes (President of the Board of Agriculture) said that articles on the subject have been published in the Board's "Journal." Experiments as to the value of nitrogen-producing bacteria are now being carried out under the Board's auspices by several of the Agricultural Colleges in this country, and so soon as the results are known the Board will consider what further action can be taken in the interest of British agriculturists. The process of producing and cultivating the bacteria has been patented by the United States Department of Agriculture, but there appears to be nothing to prevent the manufacture and sale of the material in this country.

Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain.

COUNCIL-MEETING.

THE most important business at the meeting of the Council on Wednesday was the passing of a resolution adding more poisons to the Schedule of the Pharmacy Act, and in the discussion it was stated that the additions had the approval of the Privy Council, so that there is no hitch to be feared from that quarter. Some twenty-one nominations were received for the seven places on the Council which will become vacant next month, and of these twelve chemists have signified their willingness to serve. The seven retiring councillors are of this number, the new candidates being Messrs. W. Giles (Aberdeen), C. E. Pickering (London), F. P. Sargeant (Leeds), F. W. Truman (London), and R. C. Walshaw (Huddersfield). The grants from the Benevolent Fund amounted to 70*l*. The President outlined the events that had passed in regard to the Pharmacy Bill, and stated that he has been told by members of Parliament that the Bill is a reasonable one. The winners of the School prizes in the Major course were named in the report of the Dean. Mr. E. H. Farr was appointed a temporary examiner in place of Mr. H. Wilson, who is ill.

THERE were present at the Council-meeting on April 5: the President (Mr. R. A. Robinson), Vice-President (Mr. J. R. Young), Treasurer (Mr. Walter Hills), and Messrs. S. R. Atkins, M. Carteighe, A. Cooper, W. G. Cross, W. L. Currie, R. L. Gifford, W. H. Gibson, A. Hagon, J. F. Harrington, J. Harrison, A. E. Hobbs, G. T. W. Newsholme, C. J. Park, C. Symes, and A. C. Wootton.

After the minutes of the previous meeting had been confirmed, a letter was read from Mrs. Hampson thanking the Council for their expressions of sympathy.

ELECTIONS.

Seventy persons were elected members of the Society, thirteen as student-associates, and a number of persons were restored to their former status. The register was enriched by the addition of four names, the owners having made the required declaration.

VISITOR'S REPORT.

Sir Thos. Stevenson, the Government Visitor, reported on the examinations held in London during the year ended March 31. The analytical statistics of the failures were given, the following being the remarks:

There was a considerable decrease in the number of candidates who presented themselves for this examination as compared with the year 1903-4, the decrease being from 1,151 to 907, or 21.2 per cent. But it is satisfactory to note that a much larger proportion of candidates succeeded in passing: 347 of those who presented themselves passed, or 38.3 per cent., while during the preceding year the successful candidates were in the proportion of 32.2 per cent. only. Nor do I think that this happy result was due to any laxity on the part of the examiners, to whose care and justness I can fully testify. Rather, I should say, was it due to the fewer number of hopeless candidates who submitted themselves to examination. . . . The examinations are excellent, but apprenticeship and examination are not complete tests of fitness, and should be preceded by obligatory work under competent teachers. The standard of knowledge necessary for the safety of the public is continually rising with the advance of knowledge relative to drugs. I trust that the Pharmaceutical Society may speedily demand a curriculum.

Of the Major examination Sir Thomas says:

It is to be regretted that so few chemists and druggists present themselves for this excellent examination.

The PRESIDENT emphasised some parts of the report, notably those portions which dealt with the decrease in the number of candidates and the curriculum clause.

It was ordered that a copy of the report be sent to each member of the Board of Examiners.

Dr. SYMES said the proportion of failures was still

shockingly great, and it was desirable that the Council should do all they can to diminish the number.

FINANCE.

Mr. HARRINGTON moved the adoption of the report of the Finance Committee, of which he is Chairman. The report showed the following balances:

General Fund account	£	s.	d.
Benevolent Fund—			
Current account	935	0	0
Donation account	11	13	6
Orphan account	43	9	7

while the following items, amounting to 2,930*l*. 9*s*. 6*d*., were submitted for payment:

On behalf of the "Journal"	£	s.	d.
Sundries	1,163	15	7
House	25	16	8
Law charges	232	5	6
Stationery, etc.	119	10	8
Library	38	15	3
Current expenses	8	5	2
Salaries, etc.	600	0	0
School and examinations	235	6	8
Calendar and register	112	12	5
	346	1	7

The report was adopted and a resolution also passed authorising the Treasurer to pay the Redwood Scholar the second moiety of the scholarship.

BENEVOLENT FUND.

The report of the Benevolent Fund Committee having been considered in committee, the Chairman,

Mr. ATKINS, moved its adoption. Eleven cases were considered by the committee, grants amounting to 70*l*. were made in six cases, two were deferred, and three not entertained.

Mr. GIBSON having seconded, the report was adopted.

L., M., S., AND HOUSE COMMITTEE.

This report, which was presented by Mr. Walter Hills, dealt with the attendances at the Society's libraries and museums. A thousand copies of the library catalogue are to be printed by Messrs. Butler & Tanner, and the Librarian is to deal with the superfluous books of the library as he thinks fit. Messrs. Parkinson's account for 9*l*. 18*s*. 6*d*. was approved. Mr. Cole, one of the Bell Scholars, has been obliged to leave the school through illness, and is to be allowed to return in June without payment of fee. Mr. Harrington has presented a tablet-machine and Messrs. S. Maw, Son & Sons a pot-mill to the Research Laboratory.

The TREASURER, in dealing with the report, mentioned that the new pharmaceutical laboratory is ready for inspection and students.

ORGANISATION.

The report of the Organisation Committee mentioned that official visits had been made to Leeds, Cambridge, Peterborough, and Halifax. A suggestion that the names of local registered chemists be inserted periodically in local papers was considered, but no action is to be taken at present. A resolution from Tunbridge Wells asking for guidance in the sale of poisons with a view to uniformity resulted in a recommendation to submit particular cases of difficulty to the Registrar.

The report was adopted.

THE PHARMACY BILL.

The PRESIDENT reported as to what had taken place in regard to the Pharmacy Bill since the last Council-meeting. He said that in the course of his work at the House of Commons he had received a considerable number of opinions that the Bill is a reasonable one. Whether members of Parliament had been stirred by their constituents he did not know, but many who had been looking into the Bill were in favour of what chemists ask. The difficulty is to get a hearing. A member of Parliament whom he (the President) had known for a number of years told him the other night that formerly members had a chance with a private Bill, but owing to the present condition of affairs in the House of Commons it is almost impossible for private members to get their Bills before Parliament. The President concluded his remarks with a hope that the exertions that are being made will impress the Government that chemists have a righteous claim to have the Pharmacy Act amended.

SCHOOL PRIZES.

The report of the Dean of the School on the recent examinations resulted in the following awards being made for the advanced-course students :

Botany.—Silver medal, C. H. Warner; certificate of honour, R. W. Garrow, A. E. Young, and Miss M. G. Warren.

Chemistry and Physics.—Silver medal, R. W. Garrow; certificate of honour, A. E. Young and J. M. Treneer.

Practical Chemistry.—Silver medal, J. M. Treneer; certificate of honour, A. E. Young and J. W. A. Wright.

Materia Medica.—Silver medal, J. M. Treneer; certificate of honour, A. E. Young and R. W. Garrow.

THE COUNCIL ELECTION.

The SECRETARY reported that he had received twenty-one valid nominations for the seven vacancies on the Council, and of these twelve had expressed their willingness to serve if elected. These are :

M. Carteighe (London).

W. Giles (Aberdeen).

J. F. Harrington (London).

J. Harrison (Sunderland).

A. E. Hobbs (Tunbridge Wells).

C. J. Park (Plymouth).

C. E. Pickering (London).

F. P. Sargeant (Leeds).

A. Southall (Birmingham).

F. W. Truman (London).

R. C. Walshaw (Huddersfield).

J. R. Young (Warrington).

The following nine, who were nominated, have not expressed their willingness to stand : Messrs. L. Atkinson, R. Broadhead, P. H. Burton, W. M. Campbell, C. J. Palmer, J. Paterson, J. C. Pentney, T. T. Townley, and J. C. Umney.

The Secretary also mentioned that three nominations were invalid through the nominated persons not having paid their subscriptions. The five auditors at present serving were re-nominated.

APPOINTMENTS.

Mr. A. W. Hick was appointed Divisional Secretary for Southport.

Mr. E. H. Farr was appointed a special examiner to assist the Board of Examiners in place of Mr. Harold Wilson, who is ill.

THE POISON SCHEDULE.

The PRESIDENT moved the following resolution :

That by virtue, and in exercise of the powers vested in the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, the said Council do hereby resolve and declare that each of the following articles, namely :

Cocaine and its salts,
Picrotoxin,
Acetanilide,
Preparations of cocaine,
Digitalis and its preparations,
Mercuric iodide,
Mercuric sulphocyanide,
Soluble salts of oxalic acid,
Strophanthus and its preparations,
Sulphonal,

ought to be deemed a poison within the meaning of the Pharmacy Act, 1868; and also that of the same, each of the following articles, namely :

Cocaine and its salts,
Picrotoxin,

ought to be deemed a poison in the first part of the Schedule A to the said Pharmacy Act, 1868.

The President said that the Council would remember that the Departmental Committee on Poisons recommended several additions to be made to the Poison Schedule, and since then the Society have corresponded with and interviewed the Privy Council. The result is the resolution before the Council that day. The list of poisons does not include the recommendation of the Poisons Committee of placing solutions of morphine of greater strength than 1 per cent. in the first part of the schedule. That question is one of some difficulty at present, and pending a decision the Privy Council have given an agreement to sanction the present list of additions if the necessary resolution is passed. He (the President) was unwilling to lay down a definite view at the present moment, but it seemed reasonable to him that a poison might be in two parts of the schedule, the stronger salt in the first part and the weaker preparation in the second part. The list now prepared meets with the approval of the Privy Council, and he (the

President) was anxious that the Council should exercise their proper functions and not give other persons the excuse to interfere with the Poison Schedule.

Mr. CARTEIGHE said the schedule of poisons had been considered and approved by the Law Committee, and considerable difficulty was found in the interpretation of certain words in the schedule. The committee had been obliged to regard additions with great care and insist that they be made strictly in the form in which they have been done previously. Most of them knew what the intention of the compilers of the schedule was—that potent drugs should be in one part of the schedule and weaker ones in the second part—but in carrying out the Act it has been found that the word “preparation” is a trouble to laymen and lawyers, though to chemists it is very simple. That is why no alteration has been made in morphine on the present occasion. It is undesirable to add to the schedule language that would throw more difficulties on to the administration of the Act, and not owing to want of sympathy with the Treasurer, who so ably served on the Poisons Committee. To illustrate the difficulties of the schedule one has only to consider that morphine is a “preparation” of opium, so is a weak solution from a layman’s or lawyer’s point of view, and when “opium and its preparations” is included a large amount of ground is covered. Any schedule that is to be permanent in the sense that it cannot be altered must be full of difficulties. The present list of additions is small; but the whole of the recommendations of the Council for the last twenty years had been placed before the Privy Council, who are not disposed to go any further. It is something, added Mr. Carteighe, that the President has got their partner to agree to the present list of additions. Country members often make a mistake in thinking that the Council can add what they like to the schedule. That is not so : the Council must come to an understanding first with the Privy Council, as it would be very undignified to the Society to receive rebuffs.

Mr. HOBBS, speaking as a retailer, said he felt it was the duty of the Council to give some definition of what is a poison and what a preparation, so that the retail chemist may be able to distinguish these classes when making sales. Cocaine, he was under the impression, was already included under “poisonous vegetable alkaloids,” and he was afraid that the action of the Council in now naming cocaine will lead chemists to think that a poisonous vegetable alkaloid is not specifically scheduled unless it is named. He considered that a 20-per-cent. solution of cocaine, now put in Part 2 of the schedule, is every bit as dangerous as cocaine, and is, moreover, more likely to be asked for by a purchaser. The want of uniformity as to labelling and signing for poisons often leads people to regard being asked to sign the poison-book as a breach of confidence and an insult when they have not at other pharmacies had to sign for certain poisons. Corrosive sublimate now being sold in tablets he regarded as even more dangerous than the salt itself, yet being looked upon as preparations by some chemists they are sold over the counter by simply labelling “Poison.”

The TREASURER said that Mr. Hobbs’s remarks expressed the views of registered persons generally, but there is another side to the question in that there is such a thing as common sense and intelligence among registered persons. It is rash to think that a schedule could be drawn up that could meet with all the various cases that crop up every day all over the country. It is laid down that certain things may not be sold by unregistered persons, but beyond that a good deal must be left to the intelligence of the registered person. In the case of corrosive-sublimate tablets they may be quite as poisonous as the salt itself, but it is possible to conceive of certain dilutions or mediums which would make a vast difference in the virility of corrosive sublimate. The whole question is full of difficulties. As regards the case of morphine it was put to him by one of his colleagues on the Committee that there is a great abuse of hypodermic solution of morphine : could not something be done to tie up the sale in such cases? He (the speaker) suggested putting solutions of morphine stronger than 1 per cent. in the first part of the schedule, and it is possible that that may yet be done. As to saying what conditions make poisons in Parts 1 or 2, he was afraid that any attempt at definition would be very objectionable to those for whose benefit the alteration was made. The present schedule had been very

much criticised, but, as Mr. Wootton has said, it has stood very well, and no one has suggested anything very different. He (the speaker) would like to see the list lengthened and enlarged, so that the sale of almost all drugs should be restricted to persons who know the nature of them.

Dr. SYMES thought the vagueness of the schedule is a help, but it would be good if it was made clear exactly what is intended by the additions. Is solution of cocaine intended to be put in Part 2? Perhaps the President would make a specific statement as to whether chemists are to consider a 1-per-cent. solution of cocaine as in Part 2 of the schedule.

The TREASURER: Can't Dr. Symes answer that himself?

Mr. CARTEIGHE said it would be inadvisable to use language different from the rest of the schedule. Different language was certainly desirable, but they must regard the schedule as a whole. He (the speaker) was one of the few men who, in interviewing members of Parliament before the passing of the 1868 Act, impressed upon them that when a body of men educated to the trade were entrusted with the sale of poisons they could be allowed a certain amount of latitude and judgment. This is, in fact, the only claim a chemist has for increased remuneration. Take away this latitude, and they might as well have licensed dealers in poison at once.

Mr. ATKINS referred to a recent case at Salisbury of attempted poisoning with potassium bichromate. The poison was sent out unlabelled, and, in reply to the Recorder, the seller said it was not his duty to label it "Poison"; to which the Recorder replied, "It is your duty to see that the public safety is not endangered." In his (the speaker's) opinion it would be well for chemists not to adhere so rigidly to the schedule, but to use their discretion and do their duty to the public by labelling poisonous substances whether in the schedule or not.

The PRESIDENT said that where there is a doubt as to what part of the schedule a poison belongs to, it is good policy to adopt the more stringent course. He was not able to answer Dr. Symes's question. The Society has to administer the Pharmacy Act: it is for judges to interpret it. All chemists know what was intended in the 1868 Act, but in any cases of doubt the Council might offer its opinion. The Council could not, however, lay down a general rule, as it would get into the same difficulties as have the Inland Revenue authorities in regard to labels.

LETTERS.

A resolution expressing approval of the Pharmacy Bill was received from the Hull Chemists' Association.

The British Medical Association formally acknowledged an amendment that had been sent for introduction into the Medical Acts Amendment Bill.

The Edinburgh Chemists', Assistants', and Apprentices' Association sent a resolution asking the Council to approach the General Medical Council with reference to the prescribing of large doses of official medicines.

This was referred to the Law Committee, and was the end of the public business.

Information Wanted.

Inquiries for the names and addresses of manufacturers, or other trade information, not traceable by reference to the advertisement-pages of "The Chemist and Druggist" and the "C. & D. Diary," or not filed in our private register, are inserted here free of charge. Postcard or other replies to any of the subjoined inquiries (addressed to the Editor "The Chemist and Druggist," 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.), will be esteemed.

182/41. Manufacturers of liquefied chlorine.

182/73. Makers of "Cellademna," a veterinary remedy.

91/91. Makers of "Nervocidine," the active principle of "Gasu-Basu."

182/57. An Irish subscriber asks for opinions as to the meaning of "crocus of salts," an ingredient in a condition powder.

THE EXPORT-DUTY on gambier and pepper in British North Borneo has been remitted for two years.

Trade-marks Applied For.

Objections to the registration of any of the undermentioned applications should be lodged with C. N. Dalton, Esq., C.B., Comptroller-General of Patents, Designs, and Trade-marks, at the Patents Office, 25 Southampton Buildings, Chancery Lane, London, W.C., within one month of the dates mentioned. The objection must be stated on Trade-marks Form J, cost £1, obtainable through any money-order office.

(From the "Trade-marks Journal," March 22, 1905.)

- "FORTRESS"; for caustic soda. By Chance & Hunt, Ltd., Park Lane, Oldbury, Worcestershire. 269,734.
- "T. THATCHER"; for chemicals. By T. Thatcher, c/o The Atlas Preservative Co., Windmill Lane Wharf, Deptford, London, S.E. 270,362.
- "CIENGOL"; for an agricultural and horticultural preparation. By T. Christy & Co., 4 Old Swan Lane, London, E.C. 270,102.
- "MISTIN"; for chemicals. By the Cyanid-Gesellschaft, Askaniischer Platz 3, Berlin. 270,417.
- "ORRINE"; for medicated drops. By G. S. Duncan, 11 North Park Terrace, Edinburgh. 267,646.
- "PAROZONE"; for chemicals. By the Parozone Company, Ltd., 53 Bothwell Street, Glasgow. 269,661.
- "CASTOROLDS" ("Castor" disclaimed); for castor oil tablets, lozenges, etc. By H. P. P. Rees, 35 Surrey Street, Strand, London, W.C. 269,762.
- "WILLIAM DUNKERLEY"; for an asthma-cure. By W. Dunkerley, 24 Wilson Street, Blackburn. 269,786.
- "ZINZOL" ("Zinn" disclaimed); for medicinal powders. By A. G. Farrar, Glen House, Clover Hill, Halifax. 269,893.
- "OSKITO"; for chemicals. By G. Hanning, 108 Posthof, Hamburg, Germany. 269,909.
- "CHERBAL"; for chemicals. By W. F. Wells, 20 Upper Baggot Street, Dublin. 269,943.
- "KHARU"; for a pharmaceutical preparation. By T. Christy & Co., 4 Old Swan Lane, London, E.C. 270,039.
- "ZOYOL"; for chemicals. By E. B. Paget, 5 Hyde Park Mansions, W. 270,068.
- "URAMINOL"; for a medicine. By H. W. K. Pears, Goldstone Chemical Works, Hove. 270,090.
- "DIAMALT"; for food substances. By the Deutsche Diamalt-Gesellschaft, 6 Karlsplatz, München, Germany. 269,671.
- "PURAK"; for foods, etc. By the Natural Food Co., Ltd., 305 Cambridge Road, Bethnal Green, London, E. 269,758.
- "KREDO"; for food-substances. By J. Hobson, 108 Hanging Water Road, Sheffield. 269,903.
- "COMPOSITS" ("Compo" disclaimed); for cattle foods. By S. & A. G. Davis, St. John's and Manor Mills, Ennis-corthy, Ireland. 270,108.
- "DIXON'S"; and label device; for a soap. By R. Dixon & Co., Ltd., Rock Soap Works, Rochdale. 268,862.
- "IDOL" and device of an idol; for soap and candles. By Vinolia Co., Ltd., Malden Crescent, London, N.W. 269,988.
- "FLAMINGO" and device of a flamingo; for common soap. By R. Wheen & Sons, Ltd., Deptford Creek, London, Kent. 270,027.
- Device of an apple-tree; for toilet-preparations. By Mrs. Pomeroy, Ltd., 33 Carnaby Street, London, W. 268,900.
- "PERXA"; for perfumery. By A. G. Seymour, 105 Great Victoria Street, Belfast. 269,665.
- "BAHSA"; for perfumery. By the Brighton & Hove Supply Association, Ltd., 82 Western Road, Hove, Sussex. 269,907.
- Device of half a lion joined to half a boat; for lavender-water. By M. & A. C. Bing, Grove Ferry, near Canterbury, Kent. 269,650.

(From the "Trade marks Journal," March 29, 1905.)

- "MATOS" ("Matt" disclaimed); for chemicals, etc. By P. Leuthardt-Thornton, 33 Rydal Gardens, Streatham, London, S.W. 270,171.
- "LEMC" and devices of cow and sheep; for guano, chemicals, and food substances. By Liebig's Extract of Meat Co., Ltd., 4 Lloyd's Avenue, London, E.C. 270,214, 270,216, 270,217.
- "VETA" and label device; for a disinfectant soap. By C. J. Davies, Cedar Holme, Wellington Square, Cheltenham. 269,180.
- "RUSTICIDE" ("Rustic" disclaimed); for a preparation for chrysanthemum rust. By C. J. Dicker, The Gardener's House, Frant Court Gardens, near Tunbridge Wells. 270,225.
- "KOLJE"; for medicated calves' feet jelly. By J. G. Glass & Co., 123 Gilmore Place, Edinburgh. 265,303.
- "HEMOSTHETIC" and "HEMOSTHETINE" ("Hæmo" disclaimed); for chemicals. By Parke, Davis & Co., 111 Queen Victoria Street, London, E.C. 269,870, 269,871.

Trade Notes.

MESSRS. BURGOYNE, BURBRIDGES & Co., Coleman Street, E.C., have obtained the contract for the supply of chemicals to his Majesty's Navy for three years.

It was the Income-tax Reclamation Association that urged suggested readjustment of income-tax abatements. We unwittingly attributed the letter to the Income-tax Adjustment Agency, Ltd., an older concern at the same address.

"CELSUS" is the name of a new muscle vitaliser and embrocation, which is introduced by Messrs. Barclay, Hobson & Co., Ltd., 3 Moreton Street, Manchester, who invite chemists to write to them in regard to a special offer for its introduction.

A PHOTOGRAPHIC CATALOGUE which reaches us from Messrs. James Woolley, Sons & Co., Ltd., Manchester, is nicely produced and includes within its 180 pages all the various apparatus and chemicals which amateur and professional photographers demand. A copy will be sent to any chemist who intimates to the company that he desires one.

SOL-LEMOL is the name of a new aerated-water essence which Messrs. Bratby & Hinchliffe, Ltd., Manchester, are bringing out. We have received a sample of finished beverage made from the essence, and find it quite clear, showing perfect miscibility, and that the full flavour of the lemon is well developed. "Sol-lemol" is likely to be in demand, as we understand the price is moderate although the product is of high quality. Those of our readers interested in the subject should send for a sample.

STOCKTAKING-SHEETS.—Messrs. J. McQueen & Sons, Devana Road, Leicester, whose useful system of keeping accounts we have before referred to, send us a sample of their new stocktaking-sheets. The sheets, each 10 by 8 inches, are made up in pads of fifty, and are so ruled that spaces are left for the description of the goods, quantity in stock, price per dozen, value of the stock of that particular item, and a spare column for remarks. The sheets are a most useful help to all who take stock.

AIDS TO HEARING.—A new edition of his catalogue of otacoustical instruments has just been published by Mr. T. Hawksley, 357 Oxford Street, London, W. An introduction to the catalogue gives useful information about deafness and artificial hearing instruments. Among the large selection of instruments manufactured by Mr. Hawksley we note an excellent series of conversation tubes and trumpets, especially the inconspicuous ebonite trumpet designed by Professor Politzer. Mr. Hawksley will send a copy of the catalogue to any of our readers free on receipt of trade-card. There is no need to hold stock, since Mr. Hawksley will send any of the articles on approval, allowing 20 per cent. on direct orders and 15 per cent. on cases he suits.

TITLING NEGATIVES.—A few weeks ago we were explaining to a correspondent the methods of titling negatives, and this week our attention is called to the "Primus Photo-title" printing-outfit, which in a compact form supplies all the apparatus needed for the purpose. The outfit is one of the productions of Messrs. W. Butcher & Sons, Camera House, Farringdon Avenue, E.C. No. 1 outfit consists of ninety-two letters and figures, ink-pad, opaque powder, type-holder, tweezers, and gauge, and sells at 1s. 3d.; while No. 2 outfit contains, in addition, a set of larger type, at a cost to the purchaser of 2s. 3d. Another Butcher novelty is the "Trident" developing-apparatus for films. As will be seen from the illustration this is a piece of porcelain arranged to fit inside the developing-dish, the centre spur of the apparatus being so arranged that a strip



of film can be pulled backwards and forwards through the developer. There are two sizes of the apparatus, for films up to 3½ and up to 5 inches, the price being 1s. and 1s. 6d.

INTERNATIONAL HOMŒOPATHIC DIRECTORY, 1905.—The present edition begins a new series. The editing is now under the direction of a committee of twenty Fellows and members of the British Homœopathic Society. The Directory, which has been published annually for the past ten years, contains information regarding the names, addresses, and qualifications of homœopathic practitioners all over the world. There are lists of homœopathic chemists, veterinarians, the principal homœopathic societies and institutions, and so forth. The obituary contains the names of five homœopathic chemists who died in 1904—Mr. Wm. Butcher (Blackheath), Mr. George Cheverton (Tunbridge Wells), Mr. F. Clifton (Derby), Mr. J. C. Thompson (Liverpool), and Mr. A. H. Waddington (Bradford). The Directory is published by the Homœopathic Publishing Co., 12 Warwick Lane, Paternoster Row, E.C.

NEW TOILET-REQUISITES.—"John Strange Winter," the authoress of "Bootles' Baby" and many other delightful tales which are familiar to our readers, is not perhaps so well known as the originator of several toilet-preparations, which are worth the attention of chemists and druggists. They are "Hair-food" (2s. 6d.), "Karmalak" (a dressing for the hair, 2s. 6d.), "Lakshmi" (a skin-lotion, 2s. 6d.), and "Crème Marquise" (a skin-ointment, 1s. and 2s. 6d.), all of which are made by J. S. W. Preparations, Ltd., 14 West Kensington Mansions, S.W., the wholesale agents being Messrs. Burgoyne, Burbridges & Co., 12 Coleman Street, E.C. The preparations appear to be well compounded, and are certainly elegant and put up in an attractive manner. Already a considerable business has been established in them, but the makers are getting so many postal orders for the articles that they think retail chemists ought to secure the profit by stocking the goods, and thus meeting the growing demand. They are especially desirous of establishing relations with the Colonies and tropical countries particularly for the sale of "Lakshmi," which has been found of peculiar value to Europeans living in India, as its use saves the skin from the bagginess that afflicts so many Anglo-Indian women. The makers will gladly send further particulars to any of our readers, and those who write should ask for a copy of "Comely Woman," a pamphlet by John Strange Winter, which is good reading. All the articles are on the P.A.T.A. list.

SICK-ROOM DAINTIES.—The quaint-looking business-premises at 50 Melmoth Place, Walham Green, S.W., where the "O.K." sauce and invalid specialties of Messrs. Geo. Mason & Co., Ltd., are evolved, give little idea in outward appearance of their inward spaciousness. A C. & D. representative who called there the other day was "taken round" by Mr. Percy Cooper, the managing director, and was considerably surprised to find a large factory behind the modest front, where pans of "O.K." sauce, concentrated meat-broths, and essences of beef and chicken were boiling merrily. There is no mistake about the genuineness of the Mason products. Vats were raked to show our representative the raisins, marmalade, tomato, spices, etc., in process of preparation into sauce. Boxes of raisins, tins of tomato purée, casks of pure malt vinegar, etc., were piled handy, while below were real carrots, turnips, onions, and meat of all kinds for the soups. The essences of beef, chicken, mutton, veal, the broths (chicken, veal, mutton, vermicelli), turtle-soup, strong beef-tea, and soups of various kinds are all put up in glass containers with patent air-tight lids, that collapse when punctured. They are sold through chemists only, and the prices are P.A.T.A. protected. The strong beef-tea is a specialty, being guaranteed 14 per cent. food-value. The convenience of these concentrated and elegant preparations for the sick-room is obvious. Being put up in glass containers, with just sufficient in each for one plate of soup or broth, as the case may be, there is no trouble in preparation. The clear gelatinous-looking material succumbs at once to a gentle heat, and a full-flavoured soup is the result. That these specialties are of dietetic and nutritive value is shown by the shoals of weekly orders from hospitals and infirmaries that our representative was permitted to inspect. Chemists will do well to write for particulars as to prices and varieties.

THE "M.D." DISINFECTANTS Co., 109 Victoria Street, S.W., have opened a sales office at 38 Holborn Viaduct, E.C.

EUREKATINE is the name which Messrs. Tomlinson & Hayward, Ltd., Lincoln, give to a nicotine fumigant which chemists who cater for horticultural trade should make a note of. The supply of fumigants and insecticides is distinctly the chemist's province, and, being profitable withal, should not be allowed to drift into the hands of unqualified sellers.

MARTINDALE SPECIALITIES.—The April list of W. Martindale, 10 New Cavendish Street, W., contains among other novelties a 3-per-cent. calcium iodate gauze (intended as a substitute for iodoform gauze for suppurating and septic surfaces), ether amyl valerianate capsules, phosphamol (Gardner), pyramidal neutral camphorate, and vasogen salicylate. The Formawn inhaler, the Spirone inhaler and inhalant, and Saxol emulsion are now also stocked. Kamala with a small ash-percentage has of late been difficult to obtain; the list-price for 8 per cent. ash is 2s. 9d. per lb., for 6 per cent. ash 3s. 3d. per lb., and for 2 per cent. ash 4s. 3d. per lb. Modelling-wax for dentists is now to be had in three qualities; and Pellanthum—a new quick-drying ointment-base—is being used by skin-specialists in combination with ichthyol, huile de cade, etc. Terms for advertising the Martindale specialities in local price-lists are requested.

FOR LONDONERS.—The thirty-fifth edition of that handsome annual publication the "City of London Directory" has just been issued. The "Directory" is an absolute necessity for business men who do, or wish to do, business in the Metropolis, for the great bulk of business firms have their offices within the charmed "E.C." circle. Besides full particulars being given of firms and companies trading in the City, alphabetically and topographically arranged, there are pages of portraits and letterpress devoted to members and officers of the municipality and livery companies of London. A new feature this year is the inclusion of the names of those serving on the various committees of the London County Council. The publishers (Messrs. W. H. & L. Collingridge, 143 and 149 Aldersgate Street, E.C.) state that the "Directory" was not published until March, as it was impossible to obtain much of the exclusive information earlier, and it enabled the Christmas and New Year's removals to be noted. The price of the "Directory" is 12s. 6d.

Gazette.

Partnerships Dissolved.

Faulkner, E., and Jones, J. L. C. Manchester and Salford, under the style of Greaves, Faulkner & Jones, veterinary surgeons.

MacCormac, J. S. D., and Drinkwater, E. H., Westminster Bridge Road, S.W., physicians, etc.

Pillin, L. B., and Pillin, H. L., George Street, Hanover Square, London, W., dental surgeons.

The Bankruptcy Acts, 1883 and 1890.

RECEIVING ORDER.

Lyle, William (trading as Wm. Lyle & Co., and as Thos. Crown & Co.), Berwick-upon-Tweed, wholesale chemist and house-painter, late retail chemist and druggist.

Scottish Bankruptcy.

Allan, Henry Wemyss Fielden, 101 High Street, Kirkcaldy, chemist and druggist. Meeting of creditors in trustee's office, 154 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow, April 25 at twelve.

WHERE TO STUDY.

THE FOLLOWING EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS are advertising in this issue:

South London School of Pharmacy, 325 Kennington Road, S.E.

Metropolitan College of Pharmacy, 160 and 162 Kennington Park Road, S.E.

London College of Chemistry, 323 Clapham Road, S.W.

Northern College of Pharmacy, 100 and 102 Burlington Street, Manchester.

Leeds College of Pharmacy, Clarendon Road, Leeds.

Legal Reports.

Trade Law.

Adrenaline as a Trade-mark.—We reported last year the judgment of the Tribunal of Commerce of Brussels in the case of Comar and Cie. v. Parke, Davis & Co., wherein the plaintiffs claimed damages from the defendants in respect to their appropriation of the word "adrenaline" as a trade-mark (see *C. & D.*, June 11, 1904). The Tribunal decided against the plaintiffs, who appealed. The matter came up for decision by the Court of Appeal, Brussels, on April 1, and the decision was again in favour of Messrs. Parke, Davis & Co., with costs. The appellants had, in order to justify their claim that adrenaline is a bad mark, petitioned the Court to annul Dr. Takamine's patent of January 28, 1901, for the manufacture of the product. This petition the Court considered inadmissible, and thus decided in favour of adrenaline as a trade-mark on its merits.

Court of Appeal.

FREDERICK KING & Co., LTD., v. GILLARD & Co., LTD.

On Monday and Tuesday, Lords Justices Vaughan Williams, Romer, and Stirling heard plaintiffs' appeal in the case Frederick King & Co., Ltd., v. Gillard & Co., Ltd., from the decision of Mr. Justice Kekewich. The plaintiffs are the proprietors of Edwards' desiccated soups, and about April, 1903, the defendants commenced the sale of a similar article, and they forwarded to their printers specimens of the plaintiffs' labels for the purpose of getting up their product in a way which would be, according to Mr. Fletcher Moulton, appellants' counsel, as nearly as possible similar to the general get-up of the plaintiffs'. Mr. Justice Kekewich had held that resemblance was not sufficient, and that plaintiffs had not proved their case. Mr. Lewis Edmunds, K.C., for respondents, asserted that in all evidence of deception adduced by the plaintiffs there was not a single case in which a person who had looked at a tin or packet of the defendants' article had been deceived. Mr. Stuart Smith said it had just come to plaintiffs' knowledge that since the commencement of the action defendants had brought out another label, to which no objection could be taken. If the defendants would agree to confine themselves to that label, or not substantially to depart from it, an arrangement could be come to. Judgment was reserved.

On Wednesday the Court dismissed the appeal and affirmed the decision of the lower Court, except so far as it deprived the defendants of costs, holding that the action ought to have been dismissed with costs, and giving the defendants the costs of the appeal. Their Lordships were of opinion that the get-up of the defendants' goods was not calculated to deceive, and that no actual deception had been proved, and their Lordships acquitted the defendants of any fraudulent intent, and allowed them costs in both Courts.

Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.

COMPOUND LIQUORICE POWDER.

At Liverpool on April 5, before the Stipendiary Magistrate, Wharrie & Co., Berry Street, were fined 20s. and costs for selling compound liquorice powder adulterated with 5 per cent. of ground olive stones. For a similar offence, the proportion of ground olive-stones being 6 per cent., May Shaw, of Cazneau Street, was fined the same amount, as was also John McLean (trading as Clay, Dod & Co.) for selling compound liquorice powder adulterated with 4 per cent. of ground olive-stones and 3 per cent. of wheat flour.

CAMPHORATED OIL.

At the Burnley Police Court on Wednesday, April 5, Alfred H. Gordon, described as a chemist, of 50 Holmesley Street, was summoned for selling camphorated oil which the analyst certified to be 40 per cent. deficient in camphor and totally lacking in olive oil. Mr. Mossop, for the defence, said there was not the slightest intention to defraud. Mr. Gordon bought the oil at a sale of the stock of the late Mr. Smith, wholesale chemist, and as it was in a sealed bottle and marked "Camphorated oil, B.P.," he believed it to be all right and did not examine it. He sold it in exactly the same condition as he received it. Two samples of Mr. Gordon's own making up were taken by the

police with this camphorated oil, and found to be correct. The case was dismissed on payment of costs by the defendant.

County Court Cases.

BAD LANGUAGE JUSTIFIES DISMISSAL.

At the Southwark County Court, on Monday, April 3, before Judge Addison, K.C., F. Schutze & Co., druggists' sundriesmen, 89 Southwark Street, S.E., were sued by Rose Oxley (15), for 4s., being one week's wages in lieu of notice. Mr. Priestley, for the defendants, said the girl was discharged because she used bad language among the other employees, who were aged from fourteen to twenty-one. His Honour said he must hear the words used so that he could judge whether they were bad, because bad language was generally a matter of taste. The defendants' forewoman refused to repeat the words, but wrote them down. His Honour, on reading them, expressed surprise at a girl using such words, and held that the defendants were fully justified in dismissing the plaintiff without notice. Mr. Priestley added that he had another good defence, for hung in the factory was a set of rules, one of which stated that no notice was given or required. Judgment was entered for the defendants.

NITRIC-ACID CARBOYS.

IN the City of London Court on April 3, before Judge Rentoul, K.C., an action was brought by the Standard Explosives Co., Ltd., 18 Walbrook, E.C., against Messrs. Hugh Wallace & Co., Ltd., 5 Fenchurch Street, E.C., to recover 61*l.* 10*s.* 6*d.* for the value of nitric-acid carboys detained by them. Mr. Stuart Bevan, plaintiffs' counsel, said that in the course of his clients' business they had obtained a quantity of nitric acid from the defendants, and from time to time the plaintiffs had supplied the defendants with quantities of waste acids, which had been forwarded in carboys, jars, and bottles. The plaintiffs now claimed the value of carboys not returned, and the defendants raised a counterclaim for 27*l.* for carboys which the plaintiffs had not returned. The defendants alleged that the carboys had been very much damaged while in the hands of the plaintiffs, which was denied. The jury found for the defendants, and costs were allowed. The Judge, however, granted a new trial, saying he disagreed with the verdict.

CHEMISTS' DISPENSING FOR DOCTORS.

At the Marylebone County Court on March 31, before Deputy Judge Fitzroy Cowper, Mr. William C. Adams, M.B., 1 Eton Avenue, West Hampstead, N.W., sought to recover certain fees, for medical attendance and supply of medicines, from Mrs. Mary E. A. Butterworth, Canfield Gardens, West Hampstead. The action had been remitted from the High Court.

Mr. W. Kisch, for the plaintiff, stated that his client had attended the defendant professionally from May to August 1904, sixteen weeks in all. In accordance with a custom adopted by many medical men, Dr. Adams wrote his prescriptions in a book at his chemist's shop, and the chemist dispensed the medicine and delivered it to the patient. By this arrangement the patient paid no more for the medicine than if he or she dealt with the chemist direct. He called evidence in proof of this statement.

The first witness was Mr. Joseph Tolhurst, ledger-clerk to Messrs. Allchin & Co., dispensing chemists, 28 England Lane, Hampstead, who said that his firm supplied the bulk of the medicines set forth in the plaintiff's detailed account. The prices, averaging about 1*s.* 6*d.* or 1*s.* 9*d.* per bottle, were perfectly fair, and such as they would charge to ordinary customers.

Mr. Richard Humphreys, pharmaceutical chemist, Upper Belsize Terrace, Hampstead, considered the plaintiff's charges to the defendant for the medicines quite fair and reasonable. He thought that possibly a profit of about 50 per cent. might be made by a medical man dispensing through a chemist.

Mr. Albert Latreille, manager to Messrs. Curtis & Co., chemists, 48 Baker Street, W., considered that 1*s.* 6*d.* or 1*s.* 9*d.* was a proper price to charge for a bottle of medicine, assuming, of course, that it contained drugs of ordinary price.

The plaintiff stated that doctors who dispense through a chemist are invariably charged less for the medicines than the patient would be charged if he dealt with the chemist direct. He always tried, however, to make his prices to the patient exactly the same as the patient would have to pay the chemist when dealing direct. In cross-examination by Mr. J. A. Hawke, the plaintiff said that if he were to be paid the whole amount he charged the defendant for medicines there might possibly be a profit of 50 per cent., but he did not think it would be so high. He did not tell the patient that he was charging more than he had to pay for the medicine.—Mr. Hawke: Then you have two professions?—Plaintiff: I have two capacities. I give medical attendance and I sell medicines.

Some people might object to such a combination.—It is in accordance with the Medical Act.

In answer to further questions, the plaintiff said he had no special arrangements with any chemists. He had his medicines from various firms, and they always charged him at the "professional rate."

The case was adjourned to an early date in May.

"AS AND WHEN REQUIRED."

At the Shoreditch County Court on Thursday, March 30, before Judge Smyly, the London Fancy Box Co., East Road, City Road, sued Mr. W. Carmichael & Co., trading as the Memosa Co., perfumers, &c., Dover Street, Piccadilly, for the recovery of 31*l.* 16*s.*, balance of account for perfumery-cases.

Mr. Douglas Hogg, counsel for the plaintiffs, stated that in September 1903 the defendants gave an order to the plaintiffs' traveller for 300 dozen bell-shaped perfumery-cases (to hold three or four fancy bottles) at 96*s.* per gross; the words relied upon by the defendants being, "To be taken as and when required." The defendants had confirmed the order by letter. That clause or phrase in an order, counsel remarked, is understood in the trade to mean that the customer is to take the manufactured goods away during the currency of a season; and in this case it was the Christmas season. The plaintiffs made the whole of the cases, but it was not until December 16, 1903, that the defendants took a gross of them away. Then a long correspondence ensued—the plaintiffs requesting that the goods be removed, and saying they did not anticipate any such delay, having regard to the fact that the order was given for the Christmas season; the defendants justifying delay by pointing out that the cases were to be taken as required, and promising to write when more were to be delivered. Matters dragged on until September 1904, when the plaintiffs reminded the defendants that 7 gross 7½ dozen cases still remained, and asked for instructions as to delivery. The defendants replied that the special goods for which the cases were ordered had not sold so well as expected; upon which the plaintiffs wrote that while the contract had proved an unfortunate transaction, they were prepared to hold the balance of the cases until the end of the year, but could not accept the defendants' interpretation of the clause "as and when required." As the cases were still left on the plaintiffs' hands, they were all tendered on February 15, but were refused; and thereupon the summons was issued.

Counsel for the defendants said the question was whether there had been unreasonable delay in view of the proviso in the order.

Mr. King, the plaintiffs' traveller, said that when he took the order from Mr. McCarthy, the defendants' buyer, the latter impressed upon him the necessity of the plaintiffs being able to deliver the cases quickly, saying the firm would probably be able to get through double the quantity during the Christmas season then approaching. In cross-examination, the witness said it was usual for goods to be ordered to be taken as required, but that simply meant during the season, and the cases were a Christmas line. He admitted being surprised when he was given an order amounting to 125*l.*, Mr. Carmichael having ordered only 37*l.* worth of similar cases for Christmas 1902.

His Honour suggested to the defendants' counsel that it was not to be expected that any firm of manufacturers would allow an order of such a class to extend over three Christmases.

Counsel: Well, your Honour, I wish to submit that as my defence.

The Judge: Then you will not get me to hold with you. (Laughter.) Have you ever known a person to order goods of this sort two Christmases ahead?

Counsel: Mr. Carmichael will tell you that he has.

His Honour: The point is not what the defendants intended or what was in the mind of whoever gave the order, but what is a reasonable interpretation of "as and when required." There might be some doubt as to whether the whole of such a large order should be taken during one season; but the defendants had had three Christmases, and therefore the plaintiffs were entitled to say that the cases should have been removed long ago. No one had a right to use a manufacturer's place as a warehouse, if only because of the risk of fire imposed upon him. There would be judgment for the plaintiffs, with costs.

Bankruptcies and Failures.

Re JAMES FERRIS, Regent Street, Newtownards, Druggist.—At Belfast Bankruptcy Court on April 3 this case was listed for audit and dividend. Messrs. Sheen and Dickson appeared for the assignees. The matter was adjourned for a fortnight.

Re FREDERICK AUGUSTUS STOREY, 36 Colne Road, Brierfield, Chemist and Druggist.—The public examination took place at the Burnley Bankruptcy Court on March 31. In answer to the Official Receiver, the debtor said he bought the business at Brierfield in 1903 for 240*l*. He borrowed 200*l*. and had 50*l*. which his father had given him. He had paid back 30*l*. and interest. His father was bond for the 200*l*., and he had arranged to pay at a certain sum per month. The business had never paid what he would have got in a situation. The examination was adjourned.

Re FREDERICK GEORGE PLUMMER, 2 Silver Street and 143 High Holborn, W.C., Dentifrice-dealer.—This debtor attended at the London Bankruptcy Court on March 31 for public examination upon accounts showing total liabilities 2,319*l*. 8*s*. 11*d*., (unsecured 1,814*l*. 8*s*. 11*d*.), and assets *nil*. In the course of his evidence the debtor said that in 1902 he had a patent dentifrice which he dealt with in the name of the Tusco Chemical-works. He paid various small sums for the recipe, and registered the name "Tusco." A considerable amount was expended in experimenting with and advertising the dentifrice. In 1904 he endeavoured to form the business into a company, and, partly for the expenses of that flotation, he borrowed 400*l*. from the London and County Bank. There was considerable value at that time in the Tusco business. In 1904 he was offered 300*l*. cash down and 6,000*l*. shares in a company to be formed to acquire it. That arrangement was not carried through, and eventually witness assigned the business to his brother as security for moneys which the latter had paid and guaranteed on his behalf. Witness attributed his failure to insufficiency of capital with which to carry on the Tusco business or to float it into a company. When he was pushing the dentifrice he designed a specially shaped bottle; he went all over the country selling it, and even opened agencies abroad. This was his first failure. The examination was concluded.

Re JAMES WOOD, 13 Peel Street, Barnsley, Yorks, Chemist and Mineral-water Manufacturer.—The first meeting of creditors and the public examination in bankruptcy took place on April 3 at Barnsley, before the Registrar (Mr. R. Bury). The statement of affairs showed total liabilities amounting to 2,395*l*. 17*s*. 2*d*., of which 1,294*l*. 4*s*. 10*d*. was expected to rank, and assets estimated at 834*l*. 15*s*. Debtor commenced business as a chemist in 1869, and three years later entered into partnership as a mineral-water manufacturer, commencing on his own account a short time later. He estimated that on March 16, 1904, his liabilities exceeded his assets by 149*l*. 9*s*. 9*d*., the losses incurred since that time being—on mineral-water business, 80*l*.; on chemist's ditto, 80*l*.; two horses, 30*l*. Of his liabilities 337*l*. 9*s*. 7*d*. was owing to the Barnsley Building Society in respect of a mortgage on certain property in Nelson Street valued at 611*l*. 9*s*. 1*d*. Replying to the Official Receiver (Mr. J. B. Ottley), debtor explained his start in business as a mineral-water manufacturer in partnership with Mr. Wallinson. The dissolution of that partnership in no way affected his present position. Debtor inherited property in Castlereagh Street, Barnsley, which, with the additions since made, he valued at 900*l*. Property in Nelson Street, which had cost him 1,000*l*., he valued at 650*l*., on which there was a mortgage for 611*l*. 9*s*. 1*d*. The shop in Peel Street, Barnsley, where he had carried on the business of a chemist, had been occupied by him for a period of eighteen years, the rent in recent years being 35*l*., while he had also rented two rooms from a neighbour at 9*l*. 15*s*. per annum. He owed certain amounts for rates, and it was when distraint was made, on the day he filed his petition, that he discovered his insolvency and inability to meet his creditors

in full. He valued his furniture at 250*l*. During the past four years the takings in both branches of his business had fallen off very greatly. He attributed much of this, so far as his mineral-water department was concerned, to the failure of the Wakefield makers to adhere to an agreement on the subject of prices, the effect of which was that his turnover fell from 2,000*l*. to 500*l*. per annum. He had also had heavy expenses by reason of family illness. The Official Receiver said the books had been properly kept, and, excepting certain valuations which debtor desired to amend, he did not think there was anything to trouble the Court further about. The examination was adjourned.

New Companies & Company News.

PLASMONADE, LTD.—Capital 500*l*., in 5*s*. shares. Objects: To acquire the undertaking known as Plasmonade & Plasmonoid, with the trade marks, recipes, etc., thereof, to adopt an agreement with G. Welon, and to carry on the business of manufacturers of aerated waters and pharmaceutical and medical preparations, etc.

ELECTRO-MEDICAL SUPPLY CO., LTD.—Capital 6,000*l*., in 1*l*. shares. Objects: To acquire the business of manufacturers of electrical medical battery apparatus and accessories, etc., carried on by J. Richert, E. I. Pronk, and A. E. Davis at 22 Harp Lane, Great Tower Street, E.C., as J. Richert & Co. Registered office, 61 New Cavendish Street, London.

COMPAGNIE DU CIRAGE NUBIAN, LTD.—Capital 4,100*l*., in 1*l*. shares. Objects: To adopt an agreement with E. Abbiss, R. Beevor, and J. F. Jones, to carry on, develop, and extend the business formerly carried on by the late T. Y. Kelley as the "Nubian Manufacturing Co." at Paris or elsewhere, and to carry on the business of blacking and polish manufacturers, chemists, druggists, dyers, soap-makers, oil and colour men, etc. No initial public issue. The first directors are R. Beevor, J. F. Jones, W. H. Elwell, and F. M. Bouillet. Qualification 50*l*. shares or 500*l*. debentures. Remuneration 10 per cent. of the net profits, divisible.

HAYWARD TYLER & CO., LTD.—Capital 100,000*l*., in 1*l*. shares (97,600 4 per cent. preference). Objects: To adopt an agreement with R. L. Howard, E. Howard, R. S. Lloyd, H. F. Howard, and F. E. Howard, and to carry on in London, Luton, and elsewhere the business of ironfounders, engineers, manufacturers of and dealers in aerated-water machinery, etc. No initial public issue. The first directors are the gentlemen named. Qualification, 100 ordinary shares. Remuneration as fixed by the company. Subject to certain conditions, R. S. Lloyd may appoint his nephew, G. M. Gibbins, as a director at any time within three years. Registered office, 99 Queen Victoria Street, E.C.

JOHN NEALE CO., LTD.—Capital 500*l*., in 1*l*. shares. Objects: To acquire the business of a chemist and druggist carried on by the executors of the late J. Neale at 21 George Street, Woolwich, together with the benefit of a wine or other licence or licences obtainable in connection therewith, and to carry on the same. The first subscribers are: J. T. Neale, 21 George Street, Woolwich, chemist's manager; Miss R. O. Neale, 21 George Street, Woolwich; Miss A. Neale, 21 George Street, Woolwich; M. H. Neale, High Street, Arundel, chemist; Mrs. E. Higham, 71 Fox Street, Edgeley, Stockport; W. Higham, 71 Fox Street, Edgeley, Stockport, confectioner; and A. H. G. Neale, High Street, Arundel, journalist. No initial public issue. Registered without articles of association. Registered office, 21 George Street, Woolwich.

STORTON'S, LTD.—Capital 5,000*l*., in 1*l*. shares. Objects: To adopt an agreement with G. Storton, and to carry on the business of perfumers, chemists, druggists, dyers, oil and colour men, importers and manufacturers of and dealers in pharmaceutical, medicinal, chemical, industrial, and other preparations and articles, etc. The first subscribers are: F. G. Adnitt, 29 Billing Road, Northampton, draper; J. H. C. Crockett, 36 East Park Parade, Northampton, shoe-manufacturer; F. M. Jones, 204 Abindon Avenue, Northampton, shoe-manufacturer; A. Stimpson, 9 Spencer Parade, Northampton, engineer; A. Church, Cheyne Walk, Northampton, shoe-manufacturer; W. F. Strickland, jun., 59 Colwyn Road, Northampton, clerk; and F. Singlehurst, The Crescent, Northampton, shoe-manufacturer. No initial public issue. The first directors are G. Storton, A. Church, A. Stimpson, T. Singlehurst, and J. H. C. Crockett. Qualification 100 shares. Remuneration (except managing director) as fixed by the company. Registered office, 14 Abingdon Square, Northampton.

MEGGESON & CO., LTD.—The warrants for the half-yearly interest on debentures and preference shares, together with an interim dividend on ordinary shares, were posted on April 1.

Winter Session.

Association Ballads.

*The men, their aims, their daily irk;
Their troubles, trials, thoughts, and views
On things politic, foes that lurk
In friendly guise, but treacherous work—
These be the burden of our Muse.*



The Baby.

[At a meeting of chemists held at York last week it was decided to start a chemists' association.]

BLAMELESS old party is our Mother B.,
Nurse of the foundlings that haunt pharmacæ;
Blandest of beldames that live on the Square,
Nursing the weaklings that congregate there.

Smoothing the Corners, and spending the Fees;
Fainting with fear should the Ancient One sneeze;
Squelching the Scribe when he essays to scream;
Passing the days in a decadent dream.

Sharp as a needle, yet mild as a lamb,
Skipped she with joy when the curt tele-gram
Asked her to pack up her feeder and cork,
And trip it hot-foot to the City of York.

Anxiously, eagerly, citizens came,
Keen to escort the experienced dame;
Soon to the world is a lusty babe born,
Fated that niche of the world to adorn.

Nursie is tender, and Nursie is wise—
Soothes it with kisses and stifles its sighs;
Praises its lustiness loudly and long;
Lulls it to sleep with the nursery song:

"Hush-a-by, baby, long may you stop
Feeding on pap from the Bloomsbury slop.
When you grow older, your pleasure may pall;
But Nursie will never forget you at all."

London Chemists' Association.

A MEETING of a special committee was held at St. Bride Institute, Ludgate Circus, E.C., on April 5, to discuss the draft addresses of the Association's candidates for election to the Pharmaceutical Council, Messrs. F. W. Truman and C. E. Pickering. The Press was invited and admitted, but before formal proceedings commenced Mr. Pentney (the Chairman) and Mr. Burton had a talk about the advisability of reporting the proceedings, and the Press representatives were requested to withdraw.

Leeds Chemists' Association.

A MEETING was held at the Grand Central Hotel on Thursday, March 30, the President (Mr. G. W. Worfolk) in the chair. Mr. Hollingworth, who had been announced to read a paper, had been suddenly called out of town; and the President apologised on his behalf. The paper will be taken at a future meeting.

A discussion took place regarding Mr. Pilkington Sargeant's candidature for the Pharmaceutical Council. Mr. Broadhead, Hon. Secretary of the West Riding Federation, intimated that Mr. Sargeant had been selected as the Federation candidate. The President stated that Mr. Sargeant had been the Association's candidate last year, but they had not pressed him as the Federation candidate. After remarks from Mr. Beacock and Mr. Kirk, it was decided to invite Mr. Sargeant to deliver an address on the points of his programme at the meeting of the Association on April 13.

Mr. Benjamin Arthur Burrell, 8 Springfield Mount, Leeds, was elected a member of the Association.

The President was elected to act as delegate to the dinner of the Bradford Association, and Mr. Beacock was appointed delegate to the Wakefield Association's dinner.

Barnsley Chemists' Association.

THE ordinary monthly meeting of this Association was held on March 30 at the Royal Hotel, Barnsley.

Mr. H. B. Billington gave an account of the discussions at the West Riding Federation meeting regarding the Spirits Act, and also with regard to supporting Mr. Pilkington Sargeant as candidate for the Pharmaceutical Council. Mr. Billington pointed out that Mr. Sargeant had been adopted at the Federation meeting, and he urged members to endeavour to secure Mr. Sargeant's return.

Mr. W. Rigby said that from certain reports and letters in the trade journals it was made to appear that Mr. Pilkington Sargeant had pushed himself on to the Federation as a candidate for the Council. That, however, was not the case; on the contrary, he unreservedly placed himself in the hands of the Federation, and was prepared to withdraw his candidature had the meeting elected to support some other gentleman. It was, in his opinion, much to be regretted that this course had not been adopted by other gentlemen, and for that reason, if for no other, he would support the candidature of Mr. Sargeant, and hoped all other members would do the same. Messrs. J. B. Ellisson, Nash, Bellamy, and Norwood having spoken to the same effect, a resolution confirming the action of the delegates at the Federation meeting was passed unanimously.

Leicester Chemists' Association.

A MEETING was held at Winn's Café on Tuesday, April 4, Mr. Walter Rowe in the chair. There were also present Messrs. Avery, Brice, Clear, Cleaver, Crookhall, Furnival, Hampton, Hind, Martin, Marfitt (Hon. Secretary), Peberdy, Thirlby, Ward, and others.

Mr. Rowe reported that the interview with Sir John Rolleston re the Pharmacy Bill had been entirely satisfactory.

The Secretary reported that the early-closing agreement had been advertised in the local Press, and would come into force on Thursday, April 6.

Several members having mentioned the matter, it was agreed that members please themselves as regards closing on Thursday before Good Friday. Opening on that day would not be regarded as breaking the closing agreement.

Letters from the Brighton Association re Conference and the P.A.T.A. re capsuloids were read.

Mr. T. Peberdy was elected a member of the Association, on the proposition of the Secretary, seconded by Mr. Ward.

After the meeting another was held, and a cricket club was formed, to be called the Leicester and Leicestershire Chemists' Cricket Club. The following officers were elected: Captain, Mr. G. E. Marfitt; vice-captain, Mr. H. A. Martin; hon. secretary and treasurer, Mr. H. W. Clear (Belgrave Gate, Leicester); committee, Messrs. Bowler, Crookhall, and Peberdy. The subscriptions were fixed at 10s. 6d. for principals, 5s. for assistants, and 2s. 6d. for apprentices.

Bristol Pharmaceutical Association.

A MEETING of this Association was held at the Royal Hotel, College Green, on Wednesday evening, April 5, Mr. A. Taylor, the President, in the chair. There was a representative attendance. The President stated that he had written to

SIR MICHAEL HICKS-BEACH,

as requested, sending him a copy of the draft Pharmacy Bill. He pointed out to him that the Bill had been altered since they had met Sir Michael in Bristol, and he had asked him to be present in the House of Commons and support the measure. In reply he had received a very courteous letter from Sir Michael, who, however, pointedly declined the request. In fact, he simply said that his opinion had not changed in any way; he believed his words were that the Bill was less objectionable than the one he had seen, but he was still of opinion that the presence of a qualified man in any shop was all that is required. He sent to Sir Michael a notice of the date of the postponement of the Bill and he had had no reply to that.

PHARMACY TEACHING.

The President informed the meeting that the University College had made a separate lecturership of pharmacy and materia medica, to which Mr. O. C. M. Davis had been appointed. He thought the subject was worth a separate lecturer.

Mr. Young: A pharmacist is teaching it, as it ought to be.

The President added that Mr. Davis had done a good turn in his letter to the Press in reply to some foolish comments on the labelling of bottles by pharmacists. His reply was very effective, to the point, and it came better from Mr. Davis than from anybody in the trade.

THE ANNUAL DINNER.

The President announced that it was proposed to hold the annual dinner on April 26, the Wednesday in Easter week. The President of the Pharmaceutical Society proposed to be present. Mr. Munroe Smith and Dr. Lucas, of Knowle, had also been invited, and he was hoping that both of them would be able to be present.

THE PHARMACY BILL.

Some time was spent in the consideration of the draft of the Pharmacy Bill, copies being distributed amongst the members. It was pointed out that there was a weakness in the fewness of the numbers of pharmacists in a constituency; and that apathy in the trade contributed to weakness. The Chairman explained provisions of the Bill and the points on which it differed from the previous Bill. He mentioned that the modification of Clause 7 was a considerable compromise. Mr. Young, Mr. T. Grant (Hon. Secretary), Mr. Cooper (Weston-super-Mare), and Mr. Chandler also spoke chiefly in regard to the need for a curriculum, which it was thought would bring greater protection. The Bill was generally approved.

Cheltenham and District Chemists' Association.

A MEETING of this Association was held at the Pioneer Club Rooms, Gloucester, on March 30, Mr. W. Barron (President) in the chair. There were also present: Messrs. Freshfield Reynolds (Vice-President), W. Minchin, W. H. Hampton, H. J. Broad, A. J. Wells, and W. Marchant, of Gloucester; and Messrs. H. B. Clark, F. F. Palmer, W. Palmer, A. C. Saxby, A. Hill, W. E. Church, W. J. Slatter, R. J. Pugh, and J. A. Thomas (Hon. Secretary), of Cheltenham.

PHARMACY BILL.

A discussion on legislation and the draft Pharmacy Bill was introduced by the Hon. Secretary, and the subject was freely handled by Messrs. H. B. Clark, Freshfield Reynolds, A. C. Saxby, and others, the whole criticism being ably reviewed and commented upon by the President. It was ultimately agreed that the general opinion of the meeting be submitted to the Pharmaceutical Council for consideration.

CHELTEHAM WATERS.

Mr. Herbert Stroud (Chairman of the Cheltenham Corporation Waters Committee) then advocated the more

general sale among chemists of the natural mineral waters of Cheltenham. These waters, he pointed out, have already met with much success in Cheltenham and neighbourhood, but their virtues are such that they ought to have a wider field of usefulness. Mr. Stroud directed attention to a series of articles in the "Daily Telegraph" on "English Spas," in which Cheltenham is particularly referred to. An excerpt from the article mentioned was quoted as follows:

From the point of view of the minerals dissolved in its springs, Cheltenham combines all the advantages of Homberg, Carlsbad, and Spa. The four principal wells, like those of Harrogate, require a double classification. They can be roughly characterised as muriated sulphate. It is quite obvious from a glance at the subjoined table that the association of these salines in the different springs affords a very remarkable series of medicines of ascending strengths. The nomenclature employed is that used by the authorities at Cheltenham:

Saline Constituents, in Grains per Gallon	Alkaline Saline No. 1	Alkaline Saline No. 2	Sodic-sulphated Saline	Magnesian Sulphate
Sodium chloride ...	466.5	311	392	28
Sodium sulphate ...	115	148.5	156	61
Sodium bicarbonate...	39	29.5	—	—
Potassium sulphate...	4.5	2.5	10	5
Magnesium carbonate ...	11	12.5	14	—
Magnesium sulphate ...	—	—	22.5	117.5
Calcium sulphate ...	—	—	—	63.5

Both the spare and the corpulent can here obtain the kind of draught which is specially adapted to their individual physical habits, while the bicarbonate of sodium, the characteristic principle of the alkaline waters, which is present in two of the wells, is a potent corrective of the tendency to acidity that helps to define certain types of indigestion. Moreover, there is a chalybeate spring in private hands, which is said to contain the exact proportion of carbonate of iron which made Spa famous throughout the world. Cheltenham is, in fact, one of the most wonderful natural laboratories to be found either in this or any other country.

These articles have been reviewed in the local papers, and the "Cheltenham Free Press" graphically depicted the situation thus, heading the cartoon "Another Alien Question":



CHELTONIA: Now then, my little man—go in and knock him out.

It was urged that all British chemists should encourage the Cheltenham Corporation in turning to profitable account the natural resources of their charming town. The waters, it was explained, are bottled in a concentrated form and are put up in an attractive manner, the retail prices being protected.

Dewsbury Chemists' Association.

A MEETING was held on Monday evening, April 3, Mr. J. Rhodes (President) in the chair.

The Secretary was asked to convey the sympathy of the Association to Mr. R. Broadhead, who was unable to be present on account of indisposition. It was also stated that he would not be able to attend the Bradford dinner next week, and Mr. R. Gledhill was appointed as representative.

W. R. FEDERATION AND COUNCIL CANDIDATES.

A long discussion followed the reading of the minutes of the last meeting. On that occasion Mr. S. N. Pickard gave a report of the proceedings at a recent meeting of the West Riding Federation, when the question of selecting a candidate for a seat on the Council was discussed. He then stated that the Leeds representatives had evidently gone to the meeting prepared to vote for Mr. Pilkington Sargeant, but had since learnt from Mr. Worfolk that that was not the case. Mr. Pickard commented strongly on remarks by "Noman" [?] which had appeared in a contemporary, which he described as uncalled for and ungentlemanly. Replying to Mr. W. Stead, Mr. Pickard said the consideration of other questions at the Federation meeting had to be postponed, owing to so much time having been taken up with the discussion of the election business.

Mr. R. Gledhill pointed out that a Huddersfield motion, notice of which was given last November, was adjourned, whereas a motion by Mr. Hollingworth, which should have come later, was taken.

Mr. Pickard said he was not aware of that or he would have drawn attention to it at the time.

Mr. A. B. Barker and Mr. Stead suggested that it would have been better if the Associations had been consulted before the Federation discussed the election. Representatives would then have known the views of their Associations, and could have voted accordingly. They both, however, said they did not blame Mr. Pickard for taking the course he did.

Mr. Pickard further said that only Mr. Sargeant's and Mr. Broadhead's names came before the Federation. As the latter withdrew he had no alternative but to vote for Mr. Sargeant.

Mr. R. Gledhill had nothing to say against Mr. Sargeant; but thought a man from among themselves would better represent them.

After other remarks the matter was allowed to drop.

A discussion was to have taken place on Mr. Peter MacEwan's paper "Are British Pharmacists Decadent?" but it was agreed to devote an evening to the subject at the next meeting.

NO CHANCE FOR THE BILL.

Mr. Barker read a second letter which he had received from Mr. T. P. Whittaker, M.P. for the Spon Valley, stating that there is no chance of the Pharmacy Bill coming up this Session.

Chemists' Assistants' Association.

A MEETING was held at 73 Newman Street, W., on March 30, the President (Mr. R. E. Lownsbrough) in the chair. Twelve members attended. Dr. Russell Ryan read a paper on

THE SPAS OF THE BRITISH ISLES.

Dr. Ryan commenced with a consideration of the mineral springs to which all spas and watering-places owe their existence. Springs are the outflow of subterranean accumulations, and the salts in them consist, most commonly, of sodium chloride, lime, or iron; less commonly of magnesium (as sulphate), potassium and sulphur, and, in small amounts, iodine, bromine, arsenic, and copper, with the inevitable radium. Springs are classified in five groups. Simple springs, characterised by their temperature and softness, are subdivided as their temperature is below or above that of the body. The former, such as Buxton, stimulate mildly the cutaneous nerves and are useful in eczema and convalescence. The latter, such as Bath, quicken the circulation and increase cutaneous excretion, promoting absorption of chronic exudation of gouty, rheumatic, or inflammatory origin. The next group, the brine baths, of which Droitwich and Nantwich are the British examples, are prepared from mineral waters containing sodium chloride, associated with other chlorides in smaller quantities. The brine soaks

through the skin and acts as a stimulant to the nerve-endings. These baths are favourable to the treatment of enlarged glands and chronic inflammatory thickenings, and are useful in gout and rheumatism and infantile tuberculosis. The third group, the alkaline waters, are, unfortunately, not found in these islands. They are mostly composed of sodium bicarbonate and free carbon dioxide. Pre-eminent examples are Vichy, Ems, Carlsbad, and Marienbad. In the fourth group are the "bitter" waters, such as Cheltenham and Leamington and the iron springs. The only British iron springs are at Tunbridge Wells, and one at Harrogate. The last group comprises the sulphur waters. These are of two kinds—those in which sulphuretted hydrogen is the characteristic constituent, such as Strathpeffer in Cromarty, and Lisdoonvarna, in co. Clare, and those in which sulphur is present as sodium sulphide, of which Harrogate and Llandrindod Wells are examples. The germicidal action of sulphur waters is great, and they are of much use in the treatment of syphilis, gout, and rheumatism. Dr. Ryan gave notes, largely historical, on some of the spas of England, Wales, Scotland, and Ireland, starting with the "queen of watering-places," Bath, whose history as a health-resort dates back certainly eighteen centuries, and according to legend much further. Then were mentioned Harrogate, whose waters possess in various degrees the curative qualities of nearly every known spring in Europe; Leamington, the Royal spa, which is but a century old and owes much of its popularity to Queen Victoria; Buxton, an ancient spa patronised by the Romans, and famous ever since as much for its situation and scenery as for its waters; Droitwich and Nantwich, the brine baths; and Scarborough, of which Dr. Ryan said the delightful bathing and the stimulating breezes from the North Sea add to the advantages of the two spas, and constitute a gold-mine to the seeker after the treasure of health. Llandrindod Wells, Strathpeffer, and Lisdoonvarna were briefly glanced at, and a pleasurable lecture, containing much quiet humour, was brought to a finish at a comparatively early hour.

Business Changes.

Properly authenticated business notices (not being advertisements) are inserted in this section free of charge if promptly communicated to the Editor.

MR. A. BARTLETT has opened a chemist's business at 345 Woolwich Road, Charlton.

BOOTS, LTD., have taken premises on the Pantiles, Tunbridge Wells, for a new branch.

BOOTS, LTD., have opened splendidly fitted-up premises at 384 Green Street, corner of Harold Road, East Ham.

MR. A. D. LLEWELLYN, chemist and druggist, Tonypre, has bought the business of the late Mr. J. W. Evans, The Medical Hall, Lampeter.

MR. J. A. STEWARD, chemist and druggist, 27 High Street, Worcester, has retired from business in favour of his son, Mr. Charles Alfred Steward.

MR. W. E. LONGSTAFF, chemist and druggist, has acquired the business, at Hornsea, Hull, formerly belonging to Mr. C. Morrow, pharmaceutical chemist.

MESSRS. A. & W. GAMAGE, LTD., the well-known athletic outfitters in Holborn, are opening a drug department early in May. Mr. J. Simpson, formerly with Parkes' Drugstores, Ltd., Camden Town, has been appointed manager of the department.

MESSRS. BREEZE, JACKSON & GREEN, LTD., wholesale and manufacturing druggists, Union Street, Station Road, Plymouth, have purchased the business of Messrs. J. R. Randall & Co., ointment and plaster manufacturers, Old Town Street and Ebrington Street, Plymouth.

THE "Devon and Exeter Daily Gazette" of April 4 contained an appreciative article on the business of Messrs. Holman, Ham & Co., wholesale and retail chemists, Exeter, which was founded in 1765 by Mr. John Holman, the Ham family joining the firm at a later date. From the time of the removal, in 1891, to 74 High Street, continued extension has been going on, and now larger premises have been secured in Market Street for increased facilities for the wholesale portion of the business, of which Mr. P. F. Rowsell is now proprietor.

Scientific Progress.

Temperatures under this heading are on the Centigrade scale.

Caryophyllin.—Meyer and Honigschmidt have prepared several new derivatives of caryophyllin (*"Pharm. Zeit."*, 1905, 189). The formula for this body is $C_{20}H_{34}O_4$, and they have prepared a crystalline tetra-acetyl compound melting at 268° – 276° , proving that the four oxygen atoms are all present in the form of hydroxyl groups.

Synthesis of Menthon.—Haller and Martine (*"Comptes Rendus,"* 1905, 130) have effected a synthesis of menthon and of menthone by the interaction of methyl cyclohexanone, soda, and isopropyl iodide. The resulting menthone yields menthol by reduction with hydrogen. These syntheses confirm the constitution of menthone and menthol usually accepted.

Gum Tragacanth.—According to Payet (*"Ann. Chim. Analytique,"* 1905, 63), an aqueous solution of guaiacol forms an excellent reagent for detecting the presence of powdered gum arabic in powdered tragacanth. A 1-per-cent. solution of guaiacol is added to a solution of the suspected gum, and followed by a drop of hydrogen peroxide. In the presence of gum arabic the liquid rapidly turns brown, while with pure tragacanth it remains quite colourless.

Chemistry of Hops.—Lintree and Schnell (*"Chem. Zeit."*, 1904, 308) have made an exhaustive examination of the bitter ortho-acid found in hops. To purify it, it was converted into its lead salt, which was recrystallised from acetic acid, and then found to have the composition $(C_{20}H_{15}O_5Pb)_2O$. Alcoholic potash decomposes the acid, with the formation of resin, valericianic acid, and a crystalline compound melting at 92.5° , and having the composition $C_{10}H_{12}O_4$. A monomethyl derivative melting at 187° , and a triacetyl-methyl derivative, melting at 212° , were also prepared.

Black-alder Bark.—M. J. Warin (*"Journal de Pharmacie et de Chimie"*) gives a process for the colorimetric determination of the active principles in black-alder bark. He first attempted to find a process for estimating these principles by weighing the products of hydrolysis. The active products of that hydrolysis, chrysophanic acid and emodin, are soluble in ether, while the inactive bodies, rhamnetin and feremodin, are insoluble. It seemed easy to effect their separation, but in reality it is not so, as small quantities of the inactive bodies are dissolved in the ether, and probably also some of the fatty acids contained in the bark. He found in the result 5 to $5\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of active principles, whereas the calorimetric process only showed from 3 to $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. The author's former process consisted in completely hydrolysing the bark by means of sulphuric acid, and then making a colorimetric estimation by means of alkaline solutions, comparing the same with a standard solution of pure emodin. He found, however, that hydrolysis is unnecessary, as the glucosides in the bark give a satisfactory result. He also describes an easy process which takes advantage of the fact that red and green are complementary colours, and, using a solution of nickel chloride, he found that, dissolved in equal volumes, the decigram of nickel chloride neutralised the colour of 0.025 milligram of emodin; from these data he calculates the strength of the glucosidal solutions.

Synthesis of Peptides.—The actual constitution of the albuminoid and proteid bodies generally may be said to be almost unknown, but the recent work of Emil Fischer and his pupils on this group of bodies marks a great advance, and will probably bring us within measurable distance of their artificial preparation (*"Berichte,"* 36, 1901, 2,868, etc.). Fischer noticed that in very many cases the action of either acids or ferments on proteid substances led to the formation of acid amines of the type H_2NCH_2COOH . He then found that these bodies combined with similar bodies to form peculiar anhydrides, of which the simplest type is glycylglycine, which is formed by the union of two molecules of glycine with the elimination of water. This body has the constitution $NH_2CH_2CO.NH.CH_2COOH$. The group of bodies thus successfully prepared are called peptides, dipeptides, tripeptides, etc., according to the number of amino groups entering into combination. The polypeptides present great analogies to the natural proteids. Many of them give the characteristic biuret reaction, which is given by albumen, peptones, and albumoses, and several of them are decomposed by trypsin, and yield precipitates with phosphotungstic acid. The most advanced body prepared is a pentapeptide, tetra-glycyl-glycine. It is an amorphous, colourless, light powder, decomposing without melting at below 240° . It gives an intense biuret reaction. It is slightly soluble in water, but insoluble in alcohol and ether—in fact, it possesses all the properties of a peptone, and is, in all probability, actually one of this group of bodies.

The Kaleidoscope.



How Soft, not How-ard!

He had a laughing waistcoat, which he wore going out to dinners, and in which he kept some camphor, as an antidote to matrimony.—"A Professor of Flirtation."

Practical Notes.

BOUGIE-MAKING.

P. LEMAIRE, in the "*Brussels Bulletin of Pharmacy*," states that in the absence of a convenient mould the fistular stem of graminaceæ—i.e. straws—are useful for making bougies. He takes the dry stems of wheat, oats, rye, or barley, a section between the nodes and free from leaves, of the prescribed thickness and uniform calibre. The mass having been prepared and thoroughly mixed, it is aspirated rapidly into the stem and the forefinger is placed on the upper orifice to prevent the liquid flowing back, and the stem is placed on ice. When cooling is complete the stem is easily split off and the solidified mass is in the form of a long cylinder. [This is the old glass-tube idea improved on in getting rid of the tube-mould easily.—EDITOR.]

IODOTANNIC SYRUP.

LOUIS MARTIN, in the "*Bulletin Commercial*" for February, gives a formula for the preparation of this syrup, the quantities producing 2 kilos. of 2 per cent. syrup.

Iodine powdered	...	...	...	40 grams
Gallic acid	...	...	...	40 grams
Distilled water	...	...	...	740 grams
Sugar	...	...	...	1,200 grams

Place the iodine, gallic acid, water, and 200 grams of sugar in a 2-litre flask closed with a cork through which is passed the lower end of a glass Leibig's condenser arranged vertically. Heat the mixture, and when violet vapours begin to fill the upper part of the flask, pass a current of cold water into the condenser when the iodine is deposited on the inner portion of the tube. This is carefully washed off with about 20 c.c. of 95-per-cent. alcohol, which carries down the iodine into the flask. The alcohol is evaporated, and in condensing continues to dissolve the condensed iodine. The boiling is continued till the drops of alcohol in the tube have no yellow colour, by which time the violet vapours have disappeared and the operation is complete. The remainder of the sugar is now added and dissolved in the cold.

The author prefers gallic acid to tannin because it gives a syrup nicer to the eye and more agreeable to the taste, but tannin can be employed in the same proportion if desired. The syrup keeps well.

Observations and Reflections.

By XRAYSER.

Parliament is the Enemy.

Messrs. Boot, Bailey, Batty Langley, and Alexander Cross would scarcely count if we could bring them into the open and contend with them in fair fight; but the stupid rules of Parliamentary procedure provide them with a pass of Thermopylæ where four men can easily resist four hundred, and this without needing either talent, courage, or impartiality. This is what Mr. James Reid pointed out in his letter last week, and I agree with him that six hundred men "hurting recriminations at each other from the safe shelter of effete rules and regulations" is not an edifying spectacle, nor a process calculated to promote the expedition of business. I wish I could also agree with Mr. Reid as to the imminence of repairs of the Parliamentary machine. At present no Cromwell or Mirabeau is in sight, and the actual method of leaving the initiation of all legislation to Government Departments, and regarding the House of Commons as merely the arena for periodical displays of oratorical fireworks, suits the inclination of the large majority of members perfectly.

An Independent Authority

supports Mr. Reid's contention in another form of words. The following paragraph appeared in the "Law Times" last week:

We cannot help thinking that a single member has too much power in the House of Commons. Any single member with leave of the House, which is hardly ever refused, can introduce a Bill; any single member can block a Bill; any single member can move any number of amendments; and any single member can talk out a Bill.

The writer of those lines was not concerned at all with the Pharmacy Bill. Perhaps if he had considered it he would not have approved of it. But in any case, good Bill or bad Bill, there ought to be a means provided of dealing with it. Most of us would rather be beaten in a square fight than be kept in camp year after year. A close scrutiny of Bills allowed to be introduced, and an allocation of a fixed time for the discussion of those which had passed the ordeal, could easily be arranged, and by some such scheme an infinite amount of time now wasted by members watching for chances would be saved. A two hours' debate on the Pharmacy Bill, which would permit a dozen ten-minute speeches, would suffice for the second-reading stage, and when that was over both we and our opponents would know where we were.

St. George and the Tooth-brush

is the rallying cry with which Mrs. John Lane seeks to arouse decadent Britain. In an amusing article in the "Fortnightly Review" for April, entitled "Tooth-powder or Gunpowder," she shows cause for the conclusion that "in the political economy of nations the tooth-brush is of much more importance than the sword, and tooth-powder is infinitely more important than gunpowder." Mrs. Lane was conducted to the train of thought that led to this article by seeing sets of teeth belonging to very ancient Britons whose skeletons have been dug up in Cornwall and Somersetshire. She urges that we should employ the dentist much more freely than we do, that at Board schools morning sessions should be opened with a vigorous brushing of teeth, and that professional examinations of children's teeth should be made free of charge. That, she insists, is the way to get good war material, and to compete with America. There is one little gap in the lady's argument, though it is perhaps not of much importance. She adduces no evidence to prove that our Cornish

and Somerset ancestors used either tooth brushes or powder, and, if so, what kind of the latter. She seems to have overlooked the report of the Privy Council Committee which last year investigated the allegations of physical deterioration as evidenced by our recruits. In regard to teeth, the Committee came to conclusions similar to those of Mrs. Lane. The scientific witnesses unanimously agreed that the teeth of the people have become much worse of late years, and the opinion was general that this is due chiefly to change in the character of the food consumed. The substitution of cooked pulpy stuff for dry raw seeds or nuts—"the cessation of the use of food which requires good mastication," said Sir Lauder Brunton—is the principal cause of dental caries; and Mr. Dolamore, representing the British Dental Association, capped this by telling the Committee that the teeth are the worst in the best class of schools.

The Medical Profession

keenly enjoys the contemplation of its wrongs, of the "spurns which patient merit of the unworthy takes," and it is not singular among professions and callings in this respect. To minister to this cherished grief the "Lancet" is just now giving prominence to a series of articles entitled "Medicine: its Practice and its Public Relations." In last week's instalment the iniquities of counter-prescribing, of quack medicines, and of sight-testing came under review, and the familiar recital of the alarming public dangers resulting from these did duty as usual. But the article is noticeable on account of several inaccuracies which would be natural enough in a lay paper, but which should not appear in the "Lancet" without correction. One statement is that the Pharmaceutical Society very properly and strictly forbids its members to prescribe for patients. The Society has undoubtedly discouraged anything approaching excessive prescribing, but I do not recollect that it has ever made any official pronouncement on the practice of any kind. Next we are told that no law is broken so long as the dispensing chemist lays no claim to the position of the registered medical practitioner. That ought to be the case, but it is not. What about the Apothecaries Act? Lastly, the action taken by the Pharmaceutical Society in bringing before the General Medical Council the conduct of a Scotch doctor who had caused an assistant in his employ to commit a breach of the Pharmacy Act is obliquely misrepresented. It is suggested that the Society had discontinued its action in this matter in consequence of the protest made by the profession, and the writer adds: "To compel every medical man to keep a qualified assistant to dispense for him is not possible." It is not fair to hint that this was the purpose of the proceedings.

Messrs. Brooke, Simpson & Spiller, Ltd.,

whose voluntary liquidation was announced last week, furnish the most notable example of the failure of British chemists to compete with those of Germany in the manufacture of aniline dyes. When this company was formed twenty years ago it took over a business out of which several fortunes had been made. Two years ago, after a long and costly struggle, the company reduced its nominal capital from 150,000*l.* to 30,000*l.*, and apparently has not been able to pay dividends on the reduced amount. No more instructive record could be laid before the Society of Chemical Industry than an exact account of the causes which have brought about this condition. Germany, with heavy duties on most of the chemicals required, though perhaps with some advantages in spirit, is said to produce ten million pounds' worth of aniline dyes annually; England and France between them, it is believed, do not turn out one million's worth.

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Additions to the Poisons Schedule.

It will be remembered that the Departmental Committee appointed to consider the Poisons Schedule of the Pharmacy Act, 1868, in their report dated November 25, 1902, recommended that certain additions should be made to the schedule. These included arsenic and its preparations and poisonous vegetable alkaloids (except when used in connection with agriculture or horticulture), and a third part comprising articles which might be sold labelled as the Pharmacy Act requires, but saleable by unqualified persons. There were also the following additions:

To Part 1.

Atropine and its preparations.
Cocaine and its salts.
Morphine and its salts and preparations containing 1 per cent. or more of morphine.
Picrotoxin.
Vermin-killers containing poisons included in Part 1.

To Part 2.

Acetanilide.
Cocaine, preparations of.
Digitalis and its preparations.
Morphine, preparations of, containing less than 1 per cent.
Soluble salts of oxalic acid.
Mercuric iodide.
Mercuric sulphocyanide.
Strophanthus and its preparations.
Sulphonal.

Mr. Walter Hills in his minority report agreed with the additions, and a motion in respect to the matter was placed before the Pharmaceutical Council two years ago, and referred to a committee on March 4, 1903. It may be remembered that on October 1 last we said: "From that day to this not a single word has been said about the matter publicly, and, as far as we are aware, it has been completely forgotten." Since then, however, the President of the Society has been in consultation with the Privy Council, and in the result an agreement has been come to whereby cocaine and its salts and picrotoxin are to be added to the first part of the Schedule, and all the articles specified above in the second part are to be added to that part except the item in regard to morphine. The statutory resolution was accordingly passed by the Council on Wednesday, and, when it has been formally approved by the Privy Council and gazetted, it will be law. The omission from the resolution of the Departmental Committee's recommendations respecting agricultural, horticultural, and industrial poisons is due to the fact that an amendment of the Pharmacy Act, and probably of the Arsenic Act, will be necessary before the Pharmaceutical Council or Privy Council can touch them, but independent of that it is a matter for congratulation that the two authorities should be in agreement on this important subject. We take it that this week's resolution is the last we are likely to hear of the report, which at one time looked like threatening the *raison d'être* of the trade as a qualified body.

The only notable omissions from the resolution are the entries in respect to morphine, which were intended by the Departmental Committee to cover the sale of hypodermic preparations of the alkaloid. An addition which may cause great inconvenience, temporarily at least, is acetanilide. It is well known that this article is extensively used as a headache-powder. In excessive doses it is strongly toxic, and although there are not many fatal cases recorded, the Departmental Committee had evidence to the effect that it is a dangerous drug, whose sale should be controlled. Hence the recommendation. The only objection to it is that it will practically kill the use of acetanilide as a headache-powder, phenacetin taking its place; and as it will not be possible to get rid of existing stocks of headache-powders within three months, or to work off acetanilide contracts before the Council's resolution is gazetted, there is bound to be a great deal of law-breaking and heart-breaking until matters are put on a proper footing. The same would apply to other articles in the resolution—*e.g.*, potassium oxalate—but the peculiarity with acetanilide is that out of every ten tons sold to the public not an ounce of it is known to the consumers, nor to many retailers, as anything else than "headache-powder." We feel assured that the Pharmaceutical Council will act in regard to these things with that consideration which the Board of Inland Revenue did when the new interpretation of medicine-stamp law was obtained.

Cod-liver Oil.

THE favourable reports in regard to the Norwegian catch of cod and the yield of oil, which have been noted in our cablegrams week by week, show that the fishing is progressing in a very successful manner, and all indications point to there being a large supply of oil at the end of the season in June. In consequence of these excellent conditions values have been steadily declining since the fishing commenced, and at the moment of writing the tendency is weak with the feeling that prices have not yet touched bottom. Below we give a table, compiled from our cables,

showing the catch for the whole of Norway and a comparison of prices for 1904 and 1905.

—	Catch of Cod (000 omitted)		Yield of Steam-refined Oil		Price f.o.b. Bergen	
	1904	1905	1904 Barrels	1905 Barrels	1904 s.	1905 s.
February 23	3,349	679	1,330	622	210	145
March 1 ...	5,047	1,354	2,194	1,083	210	110
" 9 ...	7,234	3,405	2,785	2,606	210	120
" 15 ...	10,874	6,716	3,873	5,139	250	120
" 22 ...	12,994	11,452	4,873	8,055	280	112
" 29 ...	14,811	17,910	5,275	13,208	285	95
April 5 ...	18,677	24,314	6,230	17,530	285	85

The fishing at Lofoten is now at its prime, as may be judged from the fact that 5,000 barrels alone were produced during the week ending March 29, which now brings the total up to date to 17,530 barrels. That the yield of oil has been very rich may be readily seen from the fact that at the end of March eighteen million cod produced 13,000 barrels of oil, whereas at the corresponding period of last year it required practically fifteen millions to fill 5,000 barrels of oil. As a fact, the official reports state that the liver-capacity of oil during March this year varied from 45 to 55 per cent., against 32 per cent. for the same period of last year. The number of livers required to fill one hectolitre during March varied from 500 to 600 (February 350 to 500), while it required from 600 to 1,200 livers in March 1904. It is curious that while cod-liver oil itself has been declining the price of the liver has been advancing, the quotations at the end of March varying from 25 to 34 ore per litre, compared with 15 to 22 ore per litre during February.

That we are to have a good average crop seems practically assured, for there is still three months' fishing left and already over 15,000 barrels of oil have been produced, which compares very favourably with 15,648 barrels, which was the total last year at the close of the Finmarken fishing. It is questionable whether the final total will approximate a 30,000-barrel crop, which marked the years 1900 and 1901 (when prices ranged between 60s. and 80s. per barrel), but much depends upon Finmarken, where the fishing so far has proved irregular. A Norwegian expert places the total production at between 18,000 and 20,000 barrels, and we do not think these figures are exaggerated. Handlers of cod-liver oil will have reason to remember 1904 as a disastrous year for profits, and it will be remembered that a considerable drop in prices occurred just as the Finmarken fishing opened. This season also has so far proved disappointing, for, as will be seen from our table, the f.o.b. Bergen price has declined quite 65s. per barrel in a little over a month, and in consequence buyers both here and in Norway are holding aloof for the time being. This downward tendency, of course, has unsettled the ideas of buyers, who naturally have lost confidence in the article. It must be remembered that the consumptive season will shortly be drawing to a close, so that the holders of old oil are anxious sellers at a reasonable margin below the rates for new oil. If we are to return to normal prices this year—and there seems every prospect of so doing—it is to be hoped the article will come into more favour with consumers, and that adulteration, which flourished during the famine year, will not be so readily resorted to.

At the last moment we hear that agents on this market are offering freely at 85s., c.i.f., and on Wednesday 80s., c.i.f., was paid for finest new Lofoten oil, so that the inference is that good fishing is still in progress.

Straits Poisons.

THE federation of the constituent parts of the British Empire is a dream which is somewhat slow of realisation; so far as pharmacy and poison laws are concerned there is no more hope to-day of federation and reciprocity than there was, say, twenty years ago. It is true that the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, in drafting a Pharmacy Bill to deal with the company question, worked in a clause, commonly known as the curriculum clause, which makes a curriculum the basis of imperial reciprocity, but we all know that what is really desired by a section of the promoters is a compulsory curriculum for those who want to practise as chemists and druggists in Great Britain. Even then there will be no central authority to advise in regard to colonial projects in poison legislation. Downing Street is impassive and incompetent in this direction, and not long ago the Chairman of the Pharmaceutical Council's committee intimated that the Council had lodged a formal complaint with the Colonial Office for not consulting the Society before adopting the Morphine Ordinance of the Straits Settlements. There is now another opportunity for the Parliamentary Committee. We mentioned in November last that a Poisons Ordinance was to be introduced into the Legislative Council of the Settlements, and in our issue of January 21 some particulars about it were given. The draft Ordinance was referred to a Select Committee, consisting of Mr. Collyer, Mr. Napier, and Mr. Tan Jiak Kim. This Committee has now reported, but we learn that its inquiries as to the condition of pharmacy in the Settlements were entirely addressed to Chinese native druggists, and not a single chemist with the Great Britain qualification was consulted about the matter. In its report the Committee recommends that the Ordinance should apply to all vendors of poisons, power being given to the Governor in Council absolutely to exempt from its operation persons or classes of persons. The object of this exemption is really to exclude wholesale merchants of mining-chemicals, vendors of photographic materials, and certain other vendors of poisons "the inconvenience of licensing whom would be greater than the advantage to be gained." Persons experienced in the handling of poisons or in the administration of poison law will observe that there is here a dangerous menace to the public safety unless the Bill contain some precautions such as those in Section 17 of the Pharmacy Act. The reporters proceed to say:

The important objects to be gained by the Bill are that persons who dispense European poisons shall be licensed after a proper test of their qualifications, and that they should keep books in English showing the mode in which they have dispensed or sold poisons.

So far as we have been able to ascertain, poisons are but little used by Chinese chemists, who of course dispense by far the largest amount of drugs in the Colony, and the poisons used by them are mostly of a mild character and are used chiefly for external use. It would be impossible for a Licensing Officer to satisfy himself that a Chinese chemist applying for a licence is of "sufficient skill and habitual caution," and accordingly we have deleted these words from Section 6, in order that licences may be granted after inquiries as to standing and reputation have proved satisfactory. The Chinese shopkeepers whom we visited showed no reluctance to keeping books relating to poisons in Chinese, and we desire to express an opinion that it is undesirable to compel these shopkeepers, so long as they deal only in Chinese poisons, to keep their books in English; for this reason we have taken out the Schedule prescribing the form of book to be kept by licensed persons, leaving it to the Governor in Council to provide for this by rule.

The reporters must be very innocent persons. The human body makes no distinction whether arsenic is labelled in Chinese or in English; by whatever name it is called, it

kills, and that in regard to arsenic and other poisons is the directing element in legislation. Efficient control of the Chinese druggists is therefore as necessary as the licensing of European chemists. The reporters also suggest alteration of the proposed poison schedule (see *C. & D.*, January 21, p. 104) so that it should comprise the following articles, while the Governor in Council would have power to exclude from the Ordinance persons licensed to sell opium or bang who are dealt with under separate Ordinances:

- Arsenic and all preparations of arsenic.
- All preparations of mercury except cinnabar.
- Lead acetate.
- All preparations of antimony except antimony sulphide.
- Concentrated nitric, sulphuric, hydrochloric, and carbolic acids.
- Phosphorus.
- Hydrocyanic acid and all cyanides.
- Oxalic acid.
- Chloroform.
- Chloral.
- All vegetable alkaloids and their preparations except (a) those of quinine and cinchonine groups; (b) caffeine; (c) theobromine.
- All natural or manufactured products which contain any of the following substances: Brucine, strychnine, morphine, conine, aconitine, atropine, hyoscyamine, nervaline, physostigmine, curarine, antiarine, helleborin, croton oil, digitalis.
- Cantharides and its preparations.
- Cannabis indica and its preparations.
- Ergot of rye and its preparations.

This schedule is an improvement on the one included in the draft Ordinance. We understand that British chemists in Penang and Singapore are quite alive to their own interests, and when the last mail left were taking steps to have certain parts of the Ordinance amended before it becomes law. We hope to give the result in an early issue, for by this time the Ordinance has become law, the third-reading stage having been imminent a month ago.

Mutual Regard.

The "Grocer" appears to have fallen upon Mr. Jesse Boot's neck and kissed him, and the "Flower of Farringdon" has proved responsive under the title "Pharmaceutical Poaching"—surely an inconsequent and inaccurate title for their views on the Pharmacy Bill. Thus Mr. Boot to his grocery woe:

I am pleased that you support me in the measures I am taking to prevent the chemists represented by the Pharmaceutical Society obtaining the monopoly they seek, which is not, as in previous Bills, to restrict to themselves the sales of poisons, but of all drugs which may be prescribed. I think you see even further than do some of the prominent members of the grocers' trade what the chemists are after, and you do well to put them on their guard, especially the large and growing numbers who deal in common household drugs, seidlitz powders, etc. The Pharmacy Bill aims at giving the private chemists a monopoly of everything that can possibly be included under the title of a prescription. The retailing of drugs to fill household recipes, though they only included Epsom salts, might be read into the provisions of the Bill. The far-reaching scope of this is obvious, and I trust your readers who are interested will urge their members of Parliament to vote against the Bill.

It is surprising how poorly posted Mr. Boot is. The provision in regard to medical prescriptions was in previous Bills, and there is no difference in the present one, except that the rights of medical practitioners are safeguarded in that matter. We are getting on with the Bill; every item of misrepresentation in respect to it ought to be good for its promoters if they nail each down like a bit of base coin, and show the true character of the opposition to it. While Mr. Boot fought the company question squarely he was a much stronger opponent than he is now, with his use of trifling arguments and points not germane to the real issue.

The Industrial Alcohol Inquiry.

"The Civilian" has from the outset of this matter indulged in rather a scoffing tone, and has frequently

endeavoured to inveigle Mr. Tyrer into a discussion on the subject. In its latest effort our contemporary almost beseeches Mr. Tyrer to "come, let us reason together," and goes on to say:

If he be disinclined to fight his battles over again, we may remind him that Raleigh's half-brother, Sir Humphrey Gilbert, cheered his fellows with the assurance that they were as near Heaven by sea as by land. He can comfort the manufacturing chemists by telling them that they are as near to that place without free spirit as with it: if they are not, the prospect is a little gloomy. As Saturn's ring, they are never close, though ever nigh, to free spirit.

They asked (1) that the manufacture of ether, chloroform, and chloral hydrate from methylated spirits free from Excise supervision be stopped. (2) That all industrial operations in which methylic or ethylic alcohol is employed, and as such disappears, be conducted in bond. (3) That the differential duty be reduced by twopence. (4) "Alcohol must be free to the British manufacturer, he must be able to handle it as he likes for his legitimate purposes. He must be able to use it pure, to distil and re-distil it, to extract and regain it from residue, and to resume it in his works in such a condition as he can easily rectify it with as little cost to himself as possible." (5) A change in the mode of manufacturing spirit (as dictated by the Revenue officials); in the process of fermentation and an extension of the materials in the direction of cheapness. (6) "A rebate of the surtax to distillers for spirits destined for certain uses in a licensed factory, and consideration for inevitable loss in manufacture." Presumably what is meant is the repayment of the allowance of threepence per proof gallon on spirits used by manufacturers—with certain reservations that appear to be reasonable. Consideration for loss in manufacture is another question. (7) Payment for samples taken for Revenue purposes. (8) Facilities for obtaining cheap alcohol as a motive power. These appear to cover the whole ground. What the Committee propose we shall presently see.

It is said that Sir Henry Primrose has written the report. If that be the case, those who can appreciate nervous English have a pleasure in store. His treatment of the subject will be clear, and leave no room for doubt as to what the conclusions of the Committee are. We are inclined to suspect that as soon as the recommendations are known, manufacturers of fine chemicals will, for a season, go where the woodbine twineth, for the purpose of rest and self-examination.

Our contemporary is certainly not "giving the show away" by this declaration, and if it has a little patience it will learn that the Committee have recognised that manufacturing chemists in the United Kingdom have laboured under distinct disadvantages in the use of alcohol, and their recommendations will go a long way to remove these. We have already indicated generally the lines of the report, which we venture to say will place our chemical and pharmaceutical industries on a better footing in many respects.

Veteran Fellows.

The death of Mr. W. Thompson Rickard, which is recorded in this issue, deprives the Chemical Society of its third oldest Fellow, Mr. Rickard having been elected in 1843. The *doyen* of the Society is Mr. John Lloyd Bullock, the veteran pharmacist of Hanover Street, W., who was elected in 1842. He was a pupil of Liebig at Giessen, and it was natural for him on his return to London to associate himself with the young Society in which several of his fellow-students were taking an active part. More than a dozen other Fellows of the Society have been connected with it for fifty years—viz.:

Mr. James Millar (address unknown). Elected 1843.

Mr. F. A. Gatty, Bannister Hall Works, Preston. Elected 1847.

Mr. J. S. C. Heywood, Export Department, Storer's Wharf, Poplar, E. Elected 1848.

Professor W. Odling, F.R.C.P., F.R.S., Oxford. Elected 1848 (Past-President).

Mr. Edmund A. Pontifex, M.I.C.E., 6 Cadogan Gardens, W. Elected 1848.

Mr. Charles F. Burnard, Plymouth Chemical-works, Plymouth. Elected 1849.

Sir David Gamble, Bart., C.B., St. Helens. Elected 1851.

Mr. N. Story Maskelyne, F.R.S., Salthrop, Wroughton. Elected 1851.

Mr. Thomas Morson, Pharmaceutical Chemist (T. Morson & Son, London). Elected 1851.

Mr. Edward Riley, 14a Finsbury Square, E.C. Elected 1851.

Professor W. J. Russell, F.R.S., 34 Upper Hamilton Terrace, W. Elected 1851 (Past-President).

Mr. J. G. Hepburn, LL.B., Dartford, Kent. Elected 1853.

Professor G. D. Liveing, F.R.S., Cambridge University. Elected 1853.

Mr. Fletcher Norton, Longtown, Abergavenny. Elected 1854.

Sir Henry E. Roscoe, F.R.S., 10 Bramham Gardens, S.W. Elected 1855 (Past-President).

Mr. Charles Tookay, Museum of Practical Geology, Jernyn Street, S.W. Elected 1855.

Several well-known men are approaching the jubilee of their fellowship, among them Dr. W. H. Perkin, F.R.S. (elected in 1856), Professor Carey Foster, and Mr. Cornelius Hanbury (both elected in 1857).

Hospital Economics.

The paper read by Dr. Mackintosh, of the Glasgow Western Infirmary, before the Hospitals Association (see *C. & D.*, March 11, p. 387), has, as we anticipated, caused considerable fluttering in official dovecotes. The strenuous but rash Secretary of the London Hospital has of course been on the warpath, but to the unprejudiced outsider his polemics do not affect the value of Dr. Mackintosh's suggestions regarding economy in hospital-management. The dispensing economies outlined by Dr. Mackintosh have not been publicly challenged. Are we to assume, therefore, that they are unchallengeable? In the interesting discussion which followed Mr. Wycliffe Peck's communication to the Hospital Officers' Association (*C. & D.*, March 25, p. 465) no attempt was made by the pharmaceutical speakers to expose the hollowness (or otherwise) of Dr. Mackintosh's economics. Mr. Peck objected to handling ready-made galenicals because, like every good pharmacist, he was averse to being made merely a machine. Mr. Langford Moore made fun of the Scotch doctor's definition of a dispenser's duties, but he did not arraign the truth or absurdity of the doctor's economic theories. Now a correspondent of the "Hospital," who signs himself "Ph.C., F.C.S.," and who states that he was for over thirty years pharmacist at two of the large London hospitals, is quite in agreement with Dr. Mackintosh on many points. He says:

My instincts were always in favour of making my own preparations up to a certain point, that point being so long as it did not involve the purchase and employment of costly machinery and specialised expensive labour. My early experience provided me with a most valuable lesson. An expensive laboratory was built costing over 1,000*l.*, and it never earned the institution one penny, as its maintenance was far more costly than its earning power. Probably if the machinery could have been kept working from morning to night it would have paid its way; but such was not the case, nor was it possible to so employ it. I do not hesitate to say that a plant costing 50*l.* would have sufficed for all the work we did. My statement is confirmed by the fact that on taking up another appointment, where the plant was of a most simple character, and no laboratory existed, we actually made a larger variety of galenicals than were being made at the larger laboratory.

The question is interesting from many points of view, and the unfettered opinions of hospital pharmacists (who speak that they do know) might not be unprejudicial to the public weal.

Cod-liver Oil Reactions.

A striking confirmation of the position taken up by the analysts for the defence in the recent Chelsea prosecution is to be found in a paper in the "Bulletin de la Société Royale de Bruxelles," by Dr. Schamelhout. The following is a literal translation of the more important passages:

Dealers frequently offer us cod-liver oil guaranteed pure, as responding to Krcmel's reaction (*i.e.*, the nitric and nitro-

sulphuric acid tests). We desire to put our friends on their guard against the value of this empirical reaction, which has acquired in Belgium an importance that it does not merit. . . Alkaloidal reactions are so delicate and are subject to such numerous influences, without speaking of the personal appreciation of the tint, that no conclusions can be drawn when they are not yielded. Kremel's reaction is in the same category. . . The unknown substance which produces this reaction undergoes, with time, different modifications, under various undetermined influences, and most rapidly when exposed to light. On exposing the oil to the rays of the sun it rapidly loses its power of giving a rose colour with nitric acid. . . It is not impossible that one will come across a pure fresh cod-liver oil not giving Kremel's rose-coloured reaction with nitric acid.

Birth.

COOPER.—At Wittington, Manchester, on March 31, the wife of H. B. Cooper (Shirley Bros., Ltd., London), of a daughter.

Deaths.

ALLAN.—At 36 Sutherland Terrace, Hillhead, Glasgow, on March 23, Mr. William Allan, chemist and druggist.

BISHOP.—At Holmwood, Babbington Road, Streatham, S.W., on April 5, Mr. Robert Bishop, of Messrs. Mann & Bishop, opium and produce brokers, Dunster House, Mincing Lane, E.C., aged about forty-eight. Mr. Bishop had only been ill a few days, the immediate cause of his death being pneumonia, following an attack of influenza. Previously to joining Mr. Mann in partnership, in 1893, Mr. Bishop was with Messrs. David Sassoon & Co., where he gained his knowledge of Persian produce. He was well known to frequenters of 'Change, where the news of his death came as a shock to his acquaintances. He leaves a widow and three children.

FIELDING.—The President of the Halifax Chemists' Association, Mr. Clement Fielding, has suffered a bereavement in the death of his father, Mr. E. Fielding, of King Cross. As a mark of consideration the Association's monthly meeting, which should have been held on Tuesday last, was postponed for a week.

FLOOKS.—At Romsey, on March 24, Mr. Thomas Henry Flocks, chemist and druggist, for about fifty years in business at Sherborne.

HAWORTH.—At Blackburn, on March 25, Mr. Thomas Haworth, principal of the firm of Jackson's Drug Co., Ltd., 9 Larkhill, Blackburn. Mr. Haworth, who started life as a mill-worker, had carried on business at Blackburn for over twenty years.

LEE.—Mr. John William Pollard Lee, chemist, Bertrams, Johannesburg, died in the hospital there last month, after a short illness. Mr. Lee was a native of Daylesford, Victoria, Australia, and was for many years an assistant in Melbourne until he went to South Africa. He was a member of the Pharmaceutical Society of the Transvaal, and was thirty-six years of age. He leaves a widow and one child.

MOORE.—On March 30 Mr. W. F. Moore died at his residence, Lonsdale, Temple Road, Rathgar, Dublin. Mr. Moore had been connected with Messrs. Hugh, Moore & Alexander, Ltd., wholesale druggists, Dublin, and held the position of co-manager and director of the extensive business. Mr. Moore held several public positions. The funeral took place at Mount Jerome Cemetery on April 3.

PRESTON.—On April 2, at 4 Elsworth Road, Primrose Hill, N.W., Mr. Alfred Preston, J.P., chemist and druggist, aged seventy-eight. The late Mr. Preston was for many years one of the partners in the firm of Hodgkinson, Prestons & King, of Bishopsgate Street Without, but retired ten years ago. It was about 1851 that Mr. Preston, after serving a seven-years' apprenticeship to his father (a wholesale druggist at Smithfield), entered the firm of Preston & Sons as a partner with his two brothers, J. T. and S. W. Preston. Shortly after his admission into partnership the firm removed to Leadenhall Street, and in 1874 the business was amalgamated with that of Thos.

Hodgkinson, Luckcombe & King, of Snow Hill. The proprietors of the Snow Hill house when it amalgamated were Mr. C. T. King and his son, Mr. Herbert King. In 1878 a large fire destroyed their house in Leadenhall Street, and this compelled their removal to their present premises at Bishopsgate Street. Mr. Preston chiefly devoted himself to the drug-markets, and was a regular attendant on 'Change, where he was recognised as the



senior wholesale druggist of his day. In politics Mr. Preston was an ardent Liberal, but left that party to join the Unionists on the Home Rule question. It is interesting to note that he was a cousin of Mr. Joseph Chamberlain. Since his retirement Mr. Preston had sat upon the Hampstead Bench of Magistrates, and gave much of his time to municipal work in that locality.

RICKARD.—On March 28, at 27 Ravensbourne Road, Catford, Kent, Mr. William Thompson Rickard, F.C.S., aged eighty-three.

STROTHER.—At Wellesley Road, Chiswick, on April 5, Mr. C. J. Strother, Hon. Treasurer of the Chemists' Assistants' Association. Mr. Strother, who was about sixty years old, died in his sleep. He was associated as a town traveller with several firms in London, but in his early days was a chemist's assistant, and had wide experience. During the Franco-Prussian War he was an assistant in one of the English pharmacies in Paris, and did such good service with the ambulance and otherwise in the Commune that the French Government recognised his efforts with a grade in the Legion of Honour. He gave an account of his experiences to the C.A.A. on one occasion. Mr. Strother was one of the best-known men in the London drug-trade, and was universally liked. He was a most useful man and acted frequently as an almoner, helping in this way many a broken man unknown to those who could help. For years he acted as Treasurer to the Chemists' Assistants' Association, which had no more loyal friend than he. Two years ago he lost his wife, after a painful illness, and had never been quite the same man since.

TILDEN.—On April 3, of heart failure following an operation, Charlotte, wife of W. A. Tilden, D.Sc., F.R.S., Professor of Chemistry in the Royal College of Science and Royal School of Mines, aged fifty-eight.

MUST BE QUALIFIED.—A subscriber directs our attention to a newspaper advertisement for a dispenser for the Middlesex County Asylum at Napsbury, St. Albans. It runs as follows:

Dispenser (male), salary 85*l.* per annum, and dinner daily. (Must be duly qualified by the Royal Pharmaceutical Society.)

Our informant states that the asylum is four miles from any town, and he thinks that the salary is not of so regal a character as one might expect from a "Royal" Society's qualification.

Personalities.

MR. W. J. BARNES, chemist and druggist, Dover, has been elected an overseer for the town.

MR. MARCUS SPURWAY, of Cannes, is now in London for a few days, *en route* for the United States.

MR. C. GERRING, chemist, High Street, New Romney, has been elected an overseer for that borough.

MR. GEORGE ANDREW, medical botanist, has been re-elected a member of Gainsborough Board of Guardians.

MR. J. GRANTLEY TINGLE has been elected President of the Chemists' Assistants' Association of New South Wales.

SIR WILLIAM RAMSAY, K.C.B., F.R.S., has been elected a member of the Athenæum Club, in recognition of his services to science.

MR. EDWARD SMITH, chemist and druggist, of 21 West Street, Horsham, has been elected a member of the Urban District Council.

At the election of the Portsmouth Board of Guardians on April 3, Mr. T. Brewis, chemist, who has been a member for a number of years, was unsuccessful.

MR. VILLIERS, the new member for Brighton, has given a specific promise to support the Pharmacy Bill. Mr. Loder refused to give a definite opinion about it.

THE Drug-trade Section of the Board of Trade and Transportation entertained Mr. Henry S. Wellcome, of Burroughs Wellcome & Co., during his stay in New York.

BRO. T. GORDON HEIGHINGTON, chemist and druggist, has been installed Worshipful Master of Alfred Newton Lodge, No. 2,686, of Freemasons. Mr. Heighington was formerly manager of the dispensing department at Harrod's Stores, and is now general manager of S. F. Goss, Ltd., Regent Street, W., and Brompton, S.W.

MR. F. J. LEWIS, Demonstrator and Assistant Lecturer on Botany in the University of Liverpool, has been approved for the degree of Bachelor of Science by the University of Geneva, and he has also been awarded the Cuthbert Peck prize—a medal and 25*l.*—by the Royal Geographical Society for his recent work on topographical botany.

MR. PETER WYATT SQUIRE has prepared a pamphlet descriptive of the four books for medical men and chemists which are issued from 413 Oxford Street, W. It is a unique circumstance in the history of British pharmacy that four recognised books of reference have been prepared in one retail pharmacy, and their value maintained by incorporating the results of the work therein. The books are: (1) "Pocket Companion to the B.P.," (2) "Companion to the B.P.," (3) "The Pharmacopœias of Thirty of the London Hospitals," and (4) "Methods and Formulæ." Mr. Squire will send a copy of the pamphlet, post free, to any chemist on application.

MR. JAMES ALFRED STEWARD, J.P., chemist and druggist, Worcester, who has retired from business in favour of his son, Mr. Charles Alfred Steward,



is one of the prominent men of that ancient city, and the esteem in which he is held by his fellow-citizens is testified by the fact that he was elected Mayor in 1898 and 1900, filling the office of Deputy Mayor in 1899. Mr. Steward was born at Tenbury, and after serving his apprenticeship at Leominster was an assistant in London with the late Mr. S. Betty and Messrs. Savory & Moore, Lancaster Gate. On leaving London he went to the Pharmacie Béréal, at Paris, for four years. He was an assistant when the Pharmacy Act was passed, and qualified immediately after. Mr. Steward acquired the business at 27 High Street in 1874, succeeding the late Mr. Woods. The business dates back to 1776, when the original owner was an apothecary who made money-lending a profitable side-line, and who has been immortalised in fiction under the name of Featherstonhaugh by Mrs. Henry Wood. Mr. Steward is a prominent Freemason.

Coming Events.

Notices for insertion under this heading should be received by Editor on Wednesday of each week.

Friday, April 7.

Photographic Trade and Pictorial Exhibition, Portman Rooms, Baker Street, W. Exhibition opens at 12 noon and remains open till April 15.

Tuesday, April 11.

Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, 17 Bloomsbury Square, W.C., at 8 p.m. Evening meeting. Mr. E. H. Farr and Mr. R. Wright on "Powdered Alcoholic Extract of Belladonna-root," Mr. R. Wright on "The Occurrence and Distribution of a Mydriatic Alkaloid in *Lactuca muralis*," and Mr. H. C. T. Gardner on "The Displacement by Water in the Preparation of Certain Tinctures." *Huddersfield Chemists' Association*, Queen Hotel, at 8.45 p.m. Monthly meeting, at which the Council election will be discussed. A delegate to the Chamber of Trades will also be elected.

Oxford Chemists' Association, Golden Cross Hotel. Ordinary meeting.

Wednesday, April 12.

Thames Valley Chemists' Association, Nuthall's Rosebery Banqueting-hall, Kingston-on-Thames, at 7.15 p.m. Annual dinner, at which the President of the Pharmaceutical Society (Mr. R. A. Robinson) will be present. Tickets, 6*s.* each, may be had from Mr. Frederick Harvey, Hon. Secretary, 1 Claremont Road, Surbiton.

Nottingham Chemists' Association, Calvert's Café, Long Row, at 9 p.m. Discussion on "Does the Constitution of the Association Need Revising?"

Newcastle-upon-Tyne Chemists' Association, Hôtel Métropole, West Clayton Street, at 8 p.m. "Pharmacopœia Suggestions," by Mr. F. Gilderdale, and discussion on Mr. MacEwan's paper, "Are British Pharmacists Decadent?"

Sheffield Pharmaceutical and Chemical Society, Montgomery Hall, at 9 p.m. Short papers by members and associates.

Manchester Pharmaceutical Association, Chemical Club Rooms, Victoria Hotel, at 8 p.m. Annual meeting.

Edinburgh Chemists', Assistants', and Apprentices' Association, 36 York Place, at 9.15 p.m. "Notes on Apparatus," by Mr. Peter Boa, and "The Preface to the B.P.," by Mr. W. S. Glass.

Wolverhampton Chemists' Association, Star and Garter Hotel, at 8.30 p.m. The President will give extracts from "Gerrard's Herbal."

Thursday, April 13.

North Staffordshire Association. Monthly meeting.

Grimsby Chemists' Association. Annual meeting.

Chemists' Assistants' Association, 73 Newman Street, Oxford Street, at 9 p.m. Discussion on Mr. MacEwan's paper "Are British Pharmacists Decadent?"

Leeds Chemists' Association, Grand Central Hotel, Briggate, at 8.45 p.m. Ordinary meeting. Mr. F. Pilkington Sargeant will state his views on pharmaceutical politics.

West Ham Chemists' Association, Earlam Hall, Forest Gate, E., at 7 p.m. Mr. Thomas Mabon on "The Preparation of Serums and Vaccines."

Friday, April 14.

Royal Institution of Great Britain, Albemarle Street, Piccadilly, W., at 9 p.m. Lord Rayleigh on "The Law of Pressure of Gases below Atmosphere."

Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, North British Branch, 36 York Place, Edinburgh, at 11.30 a.m. Scientific meeting. The following papers will be read: "Glycerin of Lead Subacetate" and "Determination of Camphor in Liniment of Camphor," by Mr. John Lothian; "Aseptic Infusions," by Mr. A. Currie; "Is Practical Pharmacy Advancing?" by Mr. D. Gilmour. After the adjournment for luncheon there will be a private conference on "The Poison Regulations."

Bournemouth Pharmaceutical Association, Quadrant Restaurant. Smoking-concert. Particulars may be had from Mr. Francis Rose, the Hon. Secretary.

THE smoking-concert of the Midland Pharmaceutical Association which was to have been held on April 11 has been postponed to May 2.

STARTING IN BUSINESS.—"I must say I find 'Opening a Pharmacy' of very great help," writes a chemist (205/33) who is starting in business. This little book is published at the offices of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C., price 2*s.*, by post 2*s.* 3*d.*, and is as essential to the young chemist after the Minor as the B.P. is before.

Festivities.

Irish Jollity.

At Dublin, on March 24, an enjoyable smoking-concert was held in the Gresham Hotel, Upper Sackville Street, under the auspices of the Irish Chemists' Assistants' and Apprentices' Association. The President (Mr. Edgar B. Aplin) occupied the chair, and was supported by Mr. Turner and Mr. L. P. Murphy. The spacious hall, which was prettily decorated for the occasion, was crowded to overflowing, some 350 visitors being present. The entertainment was under the direction of Mr. Evan Cox who, assisted by the Executive Committee, Messrs. Creed, Jameson, and Howley, were assiduous in their efforts to promote the harmony of the evening. Vocal and instrumental selections were rendered by a number of well-known Dublin artistes, the contributions ranging from the classical to the comic, recitations and character-sketches being interspersed with songs and piano-forte selections, not forgetting an excellent sleight-of-hand exhibition.

Pleasure, Dance, and Concert.

THE Portman Rooms, Baker Street, W., were on the evening of Friday, March 31, the scene of a very pleasant function, when upwards of 160 of Messrs. Parke, Davis & Co.'s employés, with a few of their relatives, responded to the invitation of Mr. F. M. Fisk, the European manager of the firm, to take part in a Cinderella dance. Included in the company were Mr. and Mrs. Holloway, Mr. and Mrs. Maben, Mr. and Mrs. Whelan, and members of their families, Messrs. H. J. Fisk, R. C. Brown (Hounslow), Holderness, and other heads of departments, together with Mr. Hickey and upwards of twenty members of the representative staff. In the interval supper was served, and thereafter the health of Mr. F. M. Fisk was proposed by Mr. Maben in a few remarks. The toast was honoured with great enthusiasm, and Mr. Fisk suitably replied. Messrs. Bowden and Cathcart officiated very acceptably as M.C.s, and during the evening solos were sung by Miss Holloway and Mr. Sidney Jameson, Mr. G. R. H. Clark, Mus.Bac., accompanying with his usual ability.

The Intrusion of Literature

into the Sphinx Club at the monthly dinner, Hotel Cecil, on Wednesday evening, predicated the reply to the subject of debate: "How far may literature intrude into advertising?" The Chairman (Mr. John Morgan Richards) had with him his daughter, Mrs. Craigie (John Oliver Hobbes), and when he opened the debate he used the expression "Ladies and gentlemen," thus indicating that the Sphinx which beamed over the proceedings is of the fairer sex. Mrs. Craigie followed her father in a piquantly humorous and observant speech, which had in it a slightly regretful tone arising from her father never allowing her to use her "small literary abilities" in writing his advertisements. Mr. Robert Barr ("Luke Sharp") followed Mrs. Craigie, and very well he spoke, as also did Mr. F. Carruthers Gould. Before the debate commenced it was intimated that Mr. Brent Good had presented the club with three ebonised chairs for the use of the principal officers. A cabled message from him was read and another was sent to him in reply. Another gift to the club came from Mr. R. J. Davis (Scott & Bowne, Ltd.), who presented chains of office to the President and other leading office-bearers, these being the complement to the badges presented by his colleague, Mr. A. B. Scott. The officers were duly decorated with the chains, and Mr. Davis was thanked for his gift.

Wakefield Chemists' Dinner.

THE fourth annual dinner of the Wakefield Chemists' Association was held on Wednesday evening at the White Horse Hotel, Wakefield. The chair was occupied by the President (Mr. T. C. Whaley), and among those present were Mr. R. C. Walshaw and Mr. J. B. Wood (Huddersfield), Mr. A. R. Briggs (Horbury), Mr. Arthur Houton and Mr. Gregory (Bradford), Mr. H. Hebden (Halifax), Mr. Bearcock and Mr. Pilkington Sargeant (Leeds), Mr. Pickard (Dewsbury), Mr. J. H. Chaplin (Vice-President), Mr. C. W. Duffin and Mr. W. Pollard.

The loyal toasts having been honoured on the proposition of the President, Mr. R. C. Walshaw proposed the toast of "The Pharmaceutical Society," which Mr. A. R. Briggs responded to. Mr. Hebden proposed the toast of "The Wakefield and District Chemists' Association," describing the Association as an unassuming, hard-working and energetic body which had as creditable a career as other societies which made much more noise. Mr. Hebden went on to refer to some criticism of the West Riding Federation's last meeting which had appeared in print, and said that under the peculiar circumstances of the occasion the Federation did the very best and most proper thing that they could. In response to the suggestion which had been made that the delegates had no authority to select a candidate he said that he, at any rate, had authority to support the candidate who might be selected by the Federation, and he believed that others were in a similar position. Mr. Pilkington Sargeant supported the toast, which Mr. J. H. Chaplin briefly acknowledged. Among the other speakers were Mr. Pollard, Mr. C. W. Duffin, and Mr. Pickard.

North Kent Chemists' Association.

THE annual meeting of this Association was held at the Clarendon Hotel, Gravesend, on Wednesday afternoon, April 5, the President, Mr. Arthur Stooke (New Brompton) in the chair. The Hon. Secretary (Mr. R. Feaver Clarke) in his

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stated that six meetings had been held (at Woolwich, Gravesend, Maidstone, and Chatham) during the year. The address of Mr. Walter Hills at Maidstone was recalled and the subsequent entertainment by Mr. A. Fred Corfe. The subjects discussed at the various meetings included the Shop-hours Act, C.O.D., the metric system, the Society of Chemist-Opticians, P.A.T.A., and Federation matters. During the past year thirty-one members joined the Association. The balance-sheet showed a balance of 12s. 6d. to the good. The officers for the ensuing year were then elected as follows: President, Mr. W. E. Goff (Dartford); Vice-Presidents, Messrs. A. J. Wing (Woolwich) and Arthur Stooke (New Brompton). Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. R. Feaver Clarke (Gravesend); Committee, Messrs. A. Fred Corfe (Maidstone), A. Goldthorpe (Plumstead), E. Millhouse (Gravesend), A. W. Hanson (Sidcup), R. T. Clarke (Gravesend), W. L. Towers (Chatham), and W. Stedman (West Malling).

THE DINNER.

In the evening the second annual dinner was held, with Mr. Arthur Stooke (the retiring President) again presiding. There was a large attendance, and the proceedings, thanks mainly to the energy of the Hon. Secretary, were cordial and animated throughout. Supporting the Chairman were Sir Gilbert Parker (M.P. for Gravesend), Mr. R. A. Robinson (President of the Pharmaceutical Society), Messrs. W. L. Currie (Glasgow), A. E. Hobbs (Tunbridge Wells), E. Millhouse, T. T. Chapman, W. L. Towers, W. E. Goff, and Mr. C. J. Palmer (Twickenham). The company also included Messrs. C. E. Beveridge, J. Harcombe Cuff (New Southgate), R. M. Ewell (Dover), Hanson (Sidcup), Wing (Woolwich), Westmoreland, Peter MacEwan, R. T. Clarke (Gravesend), A. Fred Corfe (Maidstone), W. Philip Want, Alfred Higgs (Kingston), F. A. Ashton (Idris & Co., Ltd.), Weld, Brown, and Hill (Burroughs Wellcome & Co.), Park (Ingram & Royle), F. Harvey (Surbiton) and others.

After an excellent dinner the Chairman gave "The King," which was duly honoured, and then in quick succession Mr. R. Feaver Clarke in a short but pithy speech proposed "The Houses of Parliament," and Sir Gilbert Parker (who had to leave by an early train) hastened to reply. Sir Gilbert made a witty speech, in which he described himself as a fellow-chemist (without any real qualification or certificate except that given him by the voters of Gravesend) who was trying in his own place to prescribe something for the good of the public. Unlike the pharmacists present, however, he could see little result from the effects of his prescriptions. (Laughter.) When a little boy his two main ambitions were to play the clarinet in a brass band and to make pills in a chemist's shop. (Laughter.) The latter aim

he had actually achieved, for a doctor took a liking to him and made him acquainted with the spatula, and the graduate, the pestle and the mortar, and taught him how to make cathartic pills. (Applause.) Passing into a more serious vein, Sir Gilbert alluded at length to the Pharmacy Bill. He supported entirely the principle of the Bill, which he hoped would be passed in this Parliament or the next. He was afraid there was little chance of the Bill being reached this Session, but one thing he was sure of, and that was that a change was coming over the minds of those who a year or two ago were opposed to the Bill. (Applause.) Personally he had not the slightest doubt as to the justice of the demands as embodied in the Bill. Pharmacy he considered to be as much a profession as law or medicine—or even divinity. (Laughter.) For one thing, divinity had less at stake—at least for the moment. (Much laughter.) In the case of pharmacy, too, the effects are apparent, but in the other one has to wait a while for results. (Laughter.) Should a chemist dispense sulphuric acid for sulphuric ether the consequences are not long hidden. (Laughter.) Although that might seem humorous it perhaps fitted the occasion better than any other, for it contained the secret of the whole matter. Pharmacists were fighting not only for their own dignity but also for the safety of the public. (Hear, hear, and applause.) He had never had any doubt that it was wrong that firms, be they "Shoes & Co." or any other, with directors, possessing neither qualification nor knowledge of pharmacy, and caring for nothing but the making of money, should be allowed to compete with honourable men who had secured the right to trade as pharmacists after long study. He was entirely in favour of all the aims and objects of chemists as set forth in the Pharmacy Bill, and he believed that the common sense of the British public will ultimately give chemists all that they are asking for—their just due and right. (Applause.)

The Hon. Secretary then read a letter regretting absence from the Mayor of Gravesend, after which the Chairman proposed "The Pharmaceutical Society." Mr. R. A. Robinson, in reply, referred at length to the Pharmacy Bill. The feeling was growing among legislators, he said, that the Pharmacy Act required amendment. The Bill, if not reached on April 11, would have to be postponed until after the Easter holidays—some time in May. Mr. Lough remarked to him (Mr. Robinson) recently that owing to the efforts of pharmacists throughout the country there was a far more intelligent opinion among members of Parliament regarding the Bill than there ever had been. With regard to the opposition of those to whom sacred capital was the only consideration, he (the speaker) had often been asked in Whitehall, "Is any compromise possible?" He had been asked to meet, and, in fact, had met, a certain gentleman who owns a large number of shops and some of his friends. But when he found that the compromise was to be all on the side of the pharmacist, he did not feel justified in acceding to it. (Hear, hear.) He stuck to the principle that the Society cannot allow unqualified persons to use the title of chemist. (Applause.) There was no use to talk of compromise on that point, even if it did cost certain persons 30,000*l.* for facias. (Laughter and applause.) He had at the same interview been asked why the Society insisted that the qualified manager of the pharmacy department of a company business should also be a director. He had been told that directors of large companies did not want the manager of the pharmaceutical department to be equal to themselves. His reply was that he did not want to whittle down the conditions, but what the Society insisted upon was that there must be a responsible person, and not a mere servant of the company, in charge of the pharmacy department. (Applause.) That was the latest position, and matters might be smoothed for the passing of the Bill if pharmacists were prepared to give way on these points. But he considered it would be unworthy of the Society to cut out of the measure the essential points which they were all striving for. The Pharmaceutical Council cannot recede from the position they have taken up. (Hear, hear, and applause.) It would even be better to leave over consideration of the Bill until such time as the medical men may bring in a similar measure dealing with companies trading as doctors. (Applause.)

Other toasts were "Kindred Associations," proposed by Mr. W. E. Goff, and responded to by Mr. W. L. Currie and by Mr. A. E. Hobbs; "The Visitors," given by Mr. A. J.

Wing, and replied to by Mr. C. J. Palmer and by Mr. R. M. Ewell; and "The Local Association," proposed by Mr. Currie, and responded to by Mr. A. Fred Corfe and by Mr. R. Feaver Clarke. During the evening songs were given by Mr. D. J. Williams, and recitations and musical sketches were contributed by Mr. R. Clarke, the clever son of Mr. R. T. Clarke, a member of the Association.

THE VALUE OF TRADE-MARKS.

MR. GEORGE P. ROWELL, an American advertising agent, who has had forty years' experience, writes to "Printer's Ink" in an entertaining way about various business ventures, and incidentally tells how Mr. F. W. Hurtt, who had been business manager of an Ohio journal, went to New York and made an arrangement with Dr. Humphreys, of homœopathic specifics fame, and took charge of affairs thereto to such purpose that the good old Doctor was glad to part with him even at the expense of allowing him to take away the most valuable trade-mark the concern had possessed—no less a trade-mark than "Pond's Extract." What a commentary it is on the value of a trade-mark! The Humphreys people had made Pond's extract for years. It was admittedly a preparation of witch hazel. They could no longer sell it as Pond's extract—that privilege had passed to Mr. Hurtt—but dozens of other people were selling extracts of witch hazel, and the Humphreys people had still just as good a right to make and sell an extract as anybody else. They could call it Humphreys' extract, but not Pond's. Everybody had heretofore bought Pond's extract of the Humphreys concern; now they could buy Humphreys' extract there, but not Pond's. To get Pond's they must go elsewhere. And yet the Humphreys' extract was identical in composition with Pond's, was made by the same people that had always made the Pond's, and was sold in larger bottles and at a lower price; and for all that the people would have none of it. They had learned to use Pond's, and would have no other.

Another similar case. Two men were part owners of a preparation for the hair called Hall's hair-renewer. They were not agreed on business methods, and one disposed of his interest in the concern to the other, and that other became a millionaire, doing business at Nashua, N.H. The other man knew just as well how to make the preparation, and did make it, and put it on the market, and advertised it too, only it was Plummer's hair-renewer, and not Hall's. Everybody wanted Hall's; nobody would have Plummer's, and the money spent in advertising it was wasted. After a time the owner of Hall's hair-renewer, having become wealthy, had social aspirations that the patent-medicine business did not aid, and the renewer was sold for a great price to J. C. Ayer & Co., of Lowell, who had already exploited with some success practically the same thing under the name of Ayer's hair-vigor, but could not make it compete with Hall's, that had been earlier in the field.

TIPS.

For Retail Chemists.

When asked for methylated spirit on Sundays recommend wood-naphtha.

Do not make a dustbin of your window. A wire blind is better than faded dummies and dead flies.

When suspending powders in mixture use pulv. tragac. simp. Why use unnecessary and useless sugar and starch as in pulv. tragac. co.?

When "meeting" a customer in price, do not groan at the smallness of your profit. It will make him feel he is robbing you, and money is better than stock.

For Wholesale Chemists.

Do not address chemists as "Esq."

Do not cut corks flush with the necks of bottles.

Prepare a basis for carbolic tooth-powder such as a mixture of sacch. lact. and calcii phosphas—not gritty, not silky, like white fullers' earth, and not fluffy like kieselguhr, and not prohibitive in price like precipitated silica.

[The foregoing come to us from a provincial chemist (206/3) with the renewal of his subscription, and apparently as a small extra. Such observations as these or any other notes from experience we always welcome, although we may not agree with all of them.—EDITOR.]

THE "Bollettino Ufficiale" of the Italian Ministry of Agriculture, Industry, and Commerce notifies the appointment by the Italian Government of a Commission to report on the best methods of modifying existing legislation with a view to developing the sumach-trade.

The Analysis of Shellac.

By ERNEST J. PARRY, B.Sc., F.I.C.

TO the CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST of January 31, 1903, I communicated a long paper on "The Chemistry and Analysis of Shellac." Nothing further on the subject has been published since, until last month there appeared a paper covering nine columns in a recent issue of the "Journal of the Society of Chemical Industry," by Dr. A. C. Langmuir. As this author mentions my work several times, and there appear to be several points worthy of attention, I think it proper to supplement my original paper by the present short one. Dr. Langmuir says

The most valuable paper yet published on testing shellac is one by Parry (CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, January 31, 1903). The author evidently had access to a great variety of grades, pure and impure, and gives the results of his tests by the iodine-method, together with some check-analyses on artificial mixtures of rosin and shellac. The latter showed a very satisfactory agreement with the theory. Unfortunately, Parry has not given any details whatever as to the kind of solution used, excess of reagent, time of reaction, or temperature.

I may at once say that my figures were based on the iodine-process of Hübl, allowing at least twice as much iodine as is used up to react for eighteen hours. My experiments have since been extended to about five hundred further samples of shellac and have in this way received ample confirmation. The only point to which I propose to direct further attention is the iodine-value of pure rosin, which may be—and probably is—rather more variable than it used to be, perhaps on account of the fact that the turpentine-gathering grounds are gradually getting more and more extended, and fresh species of trees are being now used for its production. The point to which I wish to draw special attention, however, is that Dr. Langmuir says in his paper

It is only by a systematic chemical examination of shellac that progress can be made. Against this in the past has stood the lack of an accessible method described in detail so that concordant results could be obtained by different chemists. I trust that the method to be described will prove of service in this respect.

With all respect for Dr. Langmuir, I must protest that this is most misleading and incorrect. Dr. Langmuir in nine columns tells us nothing new in regard to shellac. He merely has carried out an investigation as to the results obtained under varying conditions by using Wijs' modified iodine-process, and arrives at the already well-emphasised result that the conditions under which the experiments are carried out are most important if concordant results are to be obtained. His final results in regard to the analysis of shellac are merely a repetition of my own published two years ago, with the fact that the iodine-absorption is the most reliable process for adulterations with rosin up to a certain amount, again well demonstrated. His figures are in fairly good agreement with mine also. I adopted the figures 9 for shellac and 125 for rosin. The Wijs solution, as is well known, gives much higher results than the Hübl solution, and Dr. Langmuir adopts 18 and 228, or, reduced to my figures, 9 and 114. The difference in calculation is not much with these two sets of figures, but experiments with nearly a thousand samples, of which very many were made by myself from natural sticklac, have convinced me that my own figures are the more correct, and that the lower value of 114 (*i.e.*, half Langmuir's figure) is too low, and will give a result showing more rosin than is actually present in most cases. I have carried out a series of experiments in which I have, after a very tedious series of extractions by means of the silver salts (see my original paper, *loc. cit.*), extracted the rosin in a fair state of purity. The extracted rosin is always contaminated with shellac, and therefore its iodine-value will always be appreciably too low. I have never found a figure below 115, and few below 120, to which probably 5 to 10 must be added owing to the contamination with shellac.

I greatly prefer using Hübl's solution for resinous bodies, as I find the results are on the whole distinctly more concordant than the Wijs solution gives. Langmuir's figures for one hour with the Wijs solution are between 178 and 262

—so wide a difference as to make it apparent that an average figure with Wijs solution is impossible for rosin. The following are from Lewkowitsch:

Sample N.		Sample W.G.	
10 minutes ...	177.2	2 hours ...	219.0
20 minutes ...	177.5	10 hours ...	214.2
30 minutes ...	183.6	18 hours ...	216.0
1 hour ...	194.8	24 hours ...	237.7
18 hours ...	249.4		
48 hours ...	270.5		

These results are so erratic, some even decreasing by prolonging the time of absorption, that I conclude that, with rosin, Hübl's solution is far safer for accurate results. I find invariably that after eighteen hours' absorption there is very little increase at all, and certainly not sufficient in the course of the next few hours to be considered at all. If 228 were to be a good standard for rosin with Wijs' solution, then I think eighteen is too high for shellac. In fact, my own experiments on pure shellac agree better with the figure 15 to 16, but I think the older figures are more reliable.

THE APRON QUESTION.

THE recent correspondence in regard to dispensing chemists wearing aprons has brought to us at least one practical suggestion, this from Mr. George Roe, of the Hospital for Women, Soho Square, W.C. It takes the form of a double-breasted coat made of drill or holland, in the style shown in the illustration, which is reproduced from a photograph of Mr. Roe taken in the C. & D. studio. Mr. Roe does not claim originality for the coat, nor anything particular about the style. Perhaps a surtout would look better for ordinary counter work, but the main thing for the economical (who object to the apron) is something that will wash; which also will protect the wearing apparel, and be readily discarded for the walking coat, should it be necessary (as is often the case in a hospital) to interview one of the medical staff. Similar coats to this of white drill, but not so long, are worn in American drug-stores.



American Notes.

(From our Correspondent.)

THE ILLINOIS BOARD OF PHARMACY, tiring of prosecuting the same violators of the anti-cocaine law repeatedly, has brought suit against one of them under novel conditions. The Board enters a claim for \$5,000, declaring that this amount is due the State for numerous violations of the law following previous convictions. This ingenious attempt to secure what might be termed cumulative fines will, if it succeeds, make it much easier in Illinois to correct the anti-cocaine situation.

A TELEPHONE TRUST.—One of the disturbing rumours of the last few weeks in America has referred to an alleged combination of the forty-three leading telephone companies. If this trust proves a reality, it will certainly dominate the telephone business of the country, and druggists, among other classes in the community, will be affected. In America druggists either have pay stations in their stores, or permit customers to use their private 'phones without charge. The new merger may mean that druggists will be subjected to less desirable conditions in the use of 'phones.

Trade Report.

NOTICE TO BUYERS.—The prices given in this section are those obtained by importers or manufacturers for bulk quantities or original packages. To these prices various charges have to be added, whereby values are in many instances greatly augmented before wholesale dealers stock the goods. Qualities of drugs and oils vary greatly, and higher prices are commanded by selected qualities even in bulk quantities. It would be unreasonable for retail buyers to expect to get small quantities at anything like the prices here quoted.

42 Cannon Street, London, E.C., April 6.

QUIET business conditions prevail in the drug and chemical markets, with few important price changes. The deliveries of crude drugs from the warehouses continues fairly good, especially as regards ipecacuanha. All the makers of quinine have reduced their prices, consequent on the decline at Amsterdam and the moderate bark shipments. Cocaine may advance, as another maker has joined the syndicate, and a further slight advance has been made in santonin. The cod-liver oil market has gone to pieces and all agents are eager sellers. Soda tart. has been reduced. Vanilla at auction went off flatly, easier prices being accepted for the common grades. Carbolic acid is firmer and benzols and ammonia sulphate are easier. The following table shows the principal alterations of the week :

Higher	Firmer	Easier	Lower
Cocoa-butter Cumin-seed Santonin Turpentine	Acid, carbolic Ginger (Jamaica)	Ammonia sulphate Benzols Vanilla	Mace Nutmegs Oil, cod-liver Quinine and salts Soda tart.

Cablegrams.

SMYRNA, April 6:—The sales of opium for the week ending Wednesday amount to 70 cases, at steady prices.

HAMBURG, April 6:—Cod-liver oil is dull of sale. Cumin-seed is dearer at 52m. per 100 kilos., and turpentine is scarce at 85½m. per 100 kilos.

BERGEN, April 5:—The total catch of cod for the whole of Norway since the beginning of the season now amounts to 24,314,000, against 18,677,000 at the corresponding period of last year. The yield of steam-refined oil is now 17,530 barrels (an increase of 4,322 barrels for the week), against 6,230 barrels in the same week of 1904. The fishing has been favoured by fine weather, but Lofoten shows signs of declining, while Finnmarken gives uneven results. Market appears to be settling down, and 85s., f.o.b. Bergen, will readily buy finest Lofoten oil.

ACID, CARBOLIC.—Crystals are a shade firmer at 6½d. per lb. for 39° to 40° C., and 6d. for 34° to 35° C. Crude is unaltered at the prices given last week.

ACID, CITRIC. is unaltered at 1s. 2d. per lb. from second-hands, while English makers quote 1s. 2½d. to 1s. 2¾d. Foreign is 1s. 1¾d.

ALOES.—The 19 cases of low Mocha aloes for which 2s. 6d. per cwt. ("if pay charges") was accepted in sale has not been confirmed by the owner. On the last occasion 15s. was paid for similar quality.

BELLADONNA.—A very limited quantity of good-testing root is offered, for which 40s. per cwt., c.i.f., is quoted and paid.

BENZON.—Small sales of Palembang gum have been made at 42s. 6d. per cwt., which figure is the current quotation. About 60 cases of medium to good Sumatra seconds have arrived this week.

BROMIDES.—Makers report they are not yet in a position to offer large quantities for prompt delivery, and the demand still continues heavy. The situation in the United States

is referred to on page 560, from which it will be seen that those who bought through London agents at the low prices have not been able to obtain delivery.

BUCHU.—The s.s. *Armada Castle* has arrived with 120 bales from Cape Town.

BURDOCK-ROOT is obtainable at 32s., c.i.f., for cut.

CASCARA SAGRADA is quiet but firm, holders quoting 34s. per cwt. spot for one-year-old bark, and a Hamburg dealer quotes 34s. 6d., c.i.f., also for new. There are buyers at slightly under these figures.

CHAMOMILES are firmly held and in fair demand. Good Belgian flowers are quoted at 85s., mixed at from 76s. to 80s., and old at 60s., c.i.f.

CINCHONA.—On Monday 54 serons of Crown and grey bark were sold at auction, including fair Huanuco quill at 8d., broken quill at 5½d., and Loxa quill at 9½d. per lb. According to the Nederlandsche Veen, the exports from Java during March are now corrected to 1,477,000 Amst. lbs. instead of one million Amst. lbs. The total shipments from Java from January to March 1905 amount to 2,984,000 Amst. lbs.

CITRAL has advanced from 18s. to 20s. per lb. net.

COCAINE.—The syndicate of manufacturers has been strengthened by the addition of another maker, whose importance as a competitor has warranted his inclusion in the ring. It is quite possible, therefore, that any alteration in the price of hydrochloride will be upwards, as the ring now includes five makers. It is said that the present cost of crude cocaine and coca-leaves warrants a higher range of prices for the refined article, and in some quarters it is thought that the adhesion of this maker is a preliminary step to an advance. Meanwhile hydrochloride is unaltered at from 13s. 9d. to 14s. 3d. per oz., according to quantity.

COCOA-BUTTER.—At auction at Amsterdam on April 4 75 tons van Houten's sold at 67½c. to 69c. (average price 68.35c., against 67.75c. at the previous auction); 22 tons de Jong offered, of which 550 kilos. sold at 63c.; and of 9 tons Mignon 1,620 kilos. sold at 62½c.

CREAM OF TARTAR is quiet at 79s. for 95 per cent., and 81s. 6d. for 98 per cent. powder.

DRAGON'S BLOOD.—Some 6 cases sold just after the auction last week at 7l. 17s. 6d. per cwt. for good but damp lump. This week 4 cases of fine reboiled lump have arrived.

The exports from Singapore to Great Britain for the first two months of the year amount to 60 piculs, against 26, 65, 16, 9, and 8 piculs for the corresponding periods of 1904 3-2 1-0.

EXT. FILICIS MARIS is very firm and in upward tendency owing to the scarcity of new root. Prices of the liquid extract vary from about 3s. 6d. to 4s. per lb.

GALLS.—Chinese continue to be offered at 52s. 6d., c.i.f.

GAMBOGE.—There are only three cases of Siam pipe now left in first hands, which are held for high rates.

GOLDEN SEAL is quoted 6s. 6d. per lb., c.i.f., to arrive without engagement.

IPECACUANHA.—A few sales of Matto Grosso and Minas have been made since the auctions at steady prices, the latter description selling at 5s. per lb. Since our previous issue fifty bales have been shipped to the United States, and present indications point to an advance when the stocks and prices are considered. Below we give the latest stock figures :

	1905.		1904.	
	Rio & Cult.	Cartagena.	Rio & Cult.	Cartagena.
January ...	350	35	554	163
February...	300	38	604	125
March ...	323	21	474	58
Value ...	5s.	4s. 10d.	5s.	4s. 8d.

The above figures differ from those given in the stock sheets, as they include to March 31, whereas the drug statistics are made up several days before the end of the

month. The ss. *Java*, from Singapore, has arrived with 34 bags of Johore ipecacuanha, the quality of which is not quite so stout as that of previous shipments.

GUM ARABIC.—The market for Soudan gums remains very firm, and the probability is that a further advance will take place in limits, as the exceptionally low prices which have ruled for so long have proved unremunerative to shippers. Additional strength is lent to the market for Turkey gum sorts by the fact that the scarcity and relatively higher values of Australian, Indian, and other gums of less reliability, colour, and strength have increased the demand for Soudan gums. Several hundred bales of hard Soudan sorts have been sold this week at from 24s. to 26s., and for the soft qualities up to 30s. and 32s. 6d. is wanted.

JALAP.—The new crop is arriving freely on the New York market, and is offered there at 8½c. per lb.; the demand is said to be less than in former seasons.

MENTHOL is flat at 6s. per lb. spot for Kebayashi, at which small sales have been made.

OIL, COD-LIVER.—Our correspondent at Bergen writes on April 3 that the yield of the Lofoten fishing last week was rather favourable—viz. 33 million ccd and more than 2,000 barrels of cod-liver oil. The condition of the cod is still remarkably good—weight is 195 to 175 kilos., number of livers 450 to 650, percentage of oil 50 to 53 per cent. The fishing is still limited to the Western places, and all hope for an improvement in the Eastern places seems to be abandoned now. Of the other fishings in Nordland there is not much to say. Some are below, some are above, last year's catch. It is the Finmarken fishery that will decide the further development. It will be remembered, in former years this fishing is the most capricious of all our cod-fishings, being influenced by every change of the weather and hardships of the Arctic Sea, to the invasions of sea-hounds, and to the presence or absence of that little herring-like fish, "lodde," which is the most-liked bait at that vicinity. For these reasons it is impossible to predict anything as to the further course of this fishing, which this year has begun a fortnight earlier than last year, and during that time gave an output of more than two millions of cods and 2,500 barrels cod-liver oil. The market is very calm, and buyers are holding aloof. The last quotation of 95s., f.o.b., is not practicable to-day, and in the present circumstances, when we have still three months' fishing before us, and no urgent demand for oil, we think there will be a further decline of, say, 10s. to 15s. per barrel, when cod-liver oil would certainly be worth buying. If Finmarken, however, should have any disagreeable surprises in store, the situation may be slightly altered. In London there is practically no business going on, buyers for the most part having adopted a waiting attitude. Agents quote new oil at from 85s. per barrel, c.i.f., and upwards, but on Wednesday 80s. was accepted for a well-known mark.

OIL, OLIVE.—Latest advices from Messina report a declining market, in spite of small stocks and a large home consumption. "Bears" continue to sell forward. Yellow Messina is quoted 34l. 5s., green Messina 33l. 10s., burning Russia 37l. 5s., Gallipoli 34l. 10s., choice Gallipoli 35l. 15s. per tun, f.o.b.

OIL, WOOD.—Hankow quality is quoted 26s., c.i.f., 4 per cent. weight clause.

OILS, ESSENTIAL.—*Star-aniseed* oil is quoted 4s. 9d. spot, and *Citronella* oil at 1s. 7d. per lb. in cases. Quotations for *Lemon* oil come rather easier from Messina, probably owing to the absence of demand. Retail sales of Japanese demethylised *Peppermint* oil have been made at 4s. spot, at which price there are further sellers, and for American H.G.H. 14s. 9d. is still asked, and for pure Wayne County up to 14s. is wanted.

OPIMUM.—There is practically no business to report this week, and prices remain unaltered.

SMYRNA, March 25.—The sales for the week amount to 33 cases tale quale, of all descriptions (of which 13 were for local speculation), at from 7s. 10d. to 8s. 4d. per lb., c.i.f., and 4 cases inspected Yerli at 8s. 11d., c.i.f. The market closes firm with few sellers. The arrivals in Smyrna to date amount to 4,577 cases, against 1,956 cases at the same time last year. The above transactions show that a slight advance has been paid, and that local speculators have been induced to operate to a small extent. This is owing to the fact that the reports

concerning unfavourable weather and damage to the crop continue, especially as regards Salonica and the principal producing districts of the vilayet of Siva.

CONSTANTINOPLE, April 1.—Now that warmer weather has set in, it is becoming clear that the cold winter was responsible for more damage than was originally thought. Even wheat-plants have been damaged, so that opium must have been a much greater sufferer. Spring sowings are being put underground very late, and the chances of success are therefore not so bright. A total yield of over 5,000 cases (Salonica included) is scarcely probable. The week's sales amount to 6 cases Malatia at the parity of 7s. 4d. per lb., f.o.b. Market closes firm.

A monthly report on the Smyrna market states that the sales for March amount to 582 cases, of which 415 cases were for U.S.A., 23 for speculators, 21 for the Continent, and 23 cases for England. The arrivals in Smyrna to date amount to 4,437 cases, against 1,777 cases at the same period last year, and in Constantinople to 2,748, against 1,104 cases in 1904. The stock in first and second hands is now 3,996 cases, against 3,327 at same period last year, and in Constantinople 1,150, against 576 cases.

POTASSIUM IODIDE.—Japanese make is offered from New York at 13s. 3d. per lb., c.i.f., or 6d. less than the Convention rates.

QUININE.—The English and German makers have reduced their prices by ½d. per oz. to 11½d. in bulk. Messrs. Howards' price has been reduced 1d. to 1s. Quinine salts have also been lowered. The decline in bark at Amsterdam last week and the fairly heavy (corrected) shipments from Java for March are said to be responsible for the reduction. The market in second-hands continues flat, with sellers of good German brands at 10½d. per oz., but no speculative business is reported. The American makers' price has been reduced 2c. per oz. to 21c.

The exports of "quinine, quinine preparations, etc.," from Germany during the twelve months ending December were as follows:

	1902	1903	1904
Kilos. ...	232,200	197,000	159,000
Marks ...	8,359,000	7,092,000	5,724,000

The Amsterdam Quinine-works reduced their prices on April 5 by 1f. per kilo., and their quotations are now: Ed. II. 19½f., Ed. III. 22½f. per kilo.

SAFFRON is very firm at unaltered rates. There has been a severe drought in Spain for the past three months, and a telegram from Reuter to hand on Tuesday indicates that the heat in Andalusia has become terrible.

SANTONIN.—The makers have advanced their prices 6d. per lb., and now quote 30s. 3d. per lb. for at least 28 lbs., 30s. for 28 lbs., 29s. 9d. for 56 lbs., and 29s. 6d. for 1-cwt. lots, all net.

SARSAPARILLA.—It is said that the stock of genuine grey Jamaica consists of 4 bales only; 1s. 7d. per lb. is asked in second-hands, and for Lima 1s. 1d. is wanted. Eleven bales of good bright Lima have arrived this week.

SEEDS.—*Anise* continues very slow of sale; Russian offers at 21s., Levant at 20s. to 22s., and Spanish at 32s. 6d. to 35s. per cwt. Dutch *Caravays* are unchanged at 25s. per cwt. on the spot. *Canary* is steady at 57s. 6d. to 60s. per quarter for River Plate, at 62s. 6d. to 63s. for Larache and Turkish, at 72s. 6d. for Mazagan, and at 77s. 6d. to 85s. for Spanish. *Coriander*, as stocks of Morocco and Russian are almost exhausted, with no immediate prospect of replenishment, prices are extremely high; it would be difficult to find any under 40s. per cwt. East Indian is unaffected, the quotation being 20s. to 21s. per cwt. *Cumin* is dearer, owing to the certainty of a short crop in Morocco. The price of common to good Morocco is 22s. 6d. to 25s., and of Malta 27s. 6d. to 30s. per cwt. *Fenugreek* is held for 9s. per cwt. *Linseed* is firm at 38s. to 42s. per quarter for fine descriptions.

SHELLAC.—The spot prices are steady with small daily sales, including ordinary to good TN at from 145s. to 150s. per cwt., and AC Garnet 140s. to 145s. for blecky to matted, with free at 150s. Futures have been inactive, with offers at lower rates, including June 152s.—decline of 3s.

SODA TART.—Messrs. Howards have reduced their price to 67s. per cwt. in 5-cwt. casks.

SPICES.—At auction Jamaica *Ginger* sold at full to dearer prices, 270 barrels realising from 35s. to 39s. for dull to fair washed and 32s. to 38s. for good common. Of

Cochin ginger a few packages sold, including common wormy rough, without reserve at 15s. 6d.; fair washed rough was bought in at 22s. and good bold Calicut rough at 25s. per cwt. Bold selected cut Cochin was bought in at 80s. and very small cut at 27s. Of Saigon *Pepper* 122 bags sold, comprising grey at 5½d. and siftings at 4½d. Fair Tellicherry was bought in at 5½d. Privately fair Singapore on the spot is firm at 5½d., but for arrival prices are lower. No *White pepper* was offered at auction, and private values are firm at 8½d. for fair Singapore and 7½d. for fair Penang; for arrival Singapore is weaker. About 600 bags *Pimento* partly sold without reserve at barely steady prices, comprising ordinary and fair mixed blacks at 2½d. to 2¼d. and fair 2¼d. to 2¾d. per lb. *Chillies* were slow of sale, fine bright red Japanese being bought in at 35s. and Mombasa at 30s. for fair. Mixed red and yellowish Egyptian *Capsicums* off stalk were bought in at 40s. *Nutmegs* were steady to ½d. lower, *Mace* being 1d. per lb. lower. A few cases of good picked Penang *Cloves* sold at 11d.; privately the delivery market for Zanzibar is quiet and easier, with small sales of April-June at 4½d. to 4¾d. and June-August at 4¾d., closing sellers at the lower price on Wednesday. The receipts of cloves in Zanzibar during the last fourteen days amounted to 5,250 bales, making a total of 156,800 bales since August 1, against 29,000 bales last year.

STAVESACRE is about 2s. 6d. dearer, at 29s. 6d. per cwt., c.i.f.

SUGAR OF MILK.—Holders in some instances have again stiffened in their ideas of value, quoting for best powder from 60s. to 62s. 6d. per cwt., according to make.

SULPHUR.—A report to hand from Messina, dated March 31, states that there is no prospect of a decline at present. The demand for ground and refined sulphur at Catania is considerable, and the arrivals from the mines are insufficient for the mills and refineries. The exports from Messina in February increased to 40,483 tons, against 35,163 tons last year, and for the three completed months of this year the exports are 78,562 tons, against 74,618 tons in 1904. The consumption of sulphur in general appears to be increasing largely, and to France and Italy the exports have developed considerably, being 6,000 tons more than in February. The U.S.A. also imported 4,844 tons, which points to the fact that the Louisiana competition is practically of no importance.

TAMARINDS.—The first arrivals of the new crop of Barbados are held at the high figure of 15s. There are a few second-hand parcels offering at 10s. for fair Barbados; white stony Antigua can be bought at 9s.

TURMERIC.—Some fair sales of Bengal have been made on the spot at from 12s. 6d. to 13s. New-crop Bengal is not yet offered. Cochin finger has been sold at from 14s. 6d. to 15s., and split bulbs at 8s. 6d. per cwt.

VANILLA.—At auction 650 tins, chiefly Seychelles, were offered for sale, of which about 200 tins sold, the demand being flat. The business applied chiefly to common grades at easier prices, but for the better kinds there was practically no demand.

WAX, JAPANESE.—Good quality is quoted 44s. to 45s. per cwt.

Heavy Chemicals.

The general demand in the heavy-chemical market continues steady and fairly good, with a moderate business for early delivery, but there is not much doing for forward. Ammonia alkali is in strong demand, and very firm. Bleaching-powder and caustic soda moving steadily, as are other products of this branch. Sulphate of ammonia continues flat, with nominal quotations about 2s. 6d. per ton lower.

ALUMINA PRODUCTS.—The firm tone lately ruling in this branch is well maintained, and with a good all-round consumptive demand values are not likely to decline at all. Crystal alum, lump 5l. to 5l. 5s. per ton, lump in tierces 5l. 5s. to 5l. 10s., and ground in bags 5l. 10s. to 5l. 15s. per ton. Sulphate of alumina, purest qualities and practically free of iron, 4l. to 4l. 10s. per ton for ordinary strength in casks, with usual allowances for bags and loose slabs and customary extras for higher concentration. Alumino-ferric 50s. to 60s. per ton, and aluminous cake 50s. to 55s., in accordance with package, condition, and delivery. Hydrate of alumina, purest quality and high strength Al₂O₃, 12l. to 12l. 10s. per ton in large casks.

Special pulp hydrate of alumina, dried in lump, 37s. 6d. to 38s. per cwt., and ground 38s. to 38s. 6d. Aluminate of soda, high strength Al₂O₃, 35s. to 37s. 6d. per cwt., and second quality 12s. to 13s. per cwt. Carbonate of alumina, 35s. to 37s. 6d. per cwt., according to quantity, etc.

German Drug-market.

Business is very quiet, and prices have undergone little change since last week.

ANTIMONY is firm at 37m. per 100 kilos.

CAMPOR.—Refined shows only a little business; manufacturer's price is 700m., and second-hands 695m. to 690m. per 100 kilos.

COCAINE.—Hydrochloride is quoted 470m. per kilo.

CASCARA SAGRADA on the spot is firmer at 70m. per 100 kilos., and 58m. for shipment.

CONDURANGO-BARK shows no life, and is lower at 55m.

ERGOT is quiet at 300m. per 100 kilos.

GUM SANDARAC is tending lower at 125m. per 100 kilos.

GOLDEN SEAL is quoted 16m. per kilo.

IPECACUANHA is unaltered at 11½m. per kilo. for Rio, and 11¼m. per kilo. for Cartagena.

JAPANESE WAX is declining; spot is 85m. and forward 80m. per 100 kilos.

GALANGAL is lower at 25m. per 100 kilos.

LYCOPodium is quieter at 775m. per 100 kilos.

MENTHOL is dull of sale at 14½m. to 14¼m. per kilo.

SENEGAL is quiet at 650m. per 100 kilos.

SPERMACETI is quoted 220m. per 100 kilos.

OILS (FIXED).—Castor is quiet, with first pressing in barrels quoted 47m. per 100 kilos. Cod-liver oil is dull and much lower. Linseed and rape are neglected. Chinese wood oil is quoted 55m. per 100 kilos. in barrels.

OILS (ESSENTIAL).—Japanese peppermint is dull at 9½m. to 9¼m. per kilo. American (H.G.H.) is quoted 15m. per lb., and star-aniseed oil is 11m. per kilo.

American Drug-market.

New York, March 21.

Business is rather slow, and the drug-market presents few features of interest.

BALSAM COPALBA.—Central American is moving freely at 31c. Pará is scarce and tending upwards. For spot goods 35c. is asked.

BEEFWAX is in light supply, especially the finer domestic grades, which are scarce and firm at 33c. Cuban wax is offered at 32c.

CANTHARIDES.—Chinese are down to 50c. per lb. owing to arrivals. Russian are firm at \$1.25.

CASCARA BARK is dull and moving very slowly. Spot values are not up to regular requirements.

CITRONELLA OIL is tending upwards again, and 36c. is asked for bulk oil. Supplies are well concentrated, and arrivals are not up to regular requirements.

COD-LIVER OIL.—Advices from abroad have, if anything, weakened this market. Quotations range from \$33.00 to \$38.00, according to brand, but these figures can be shaded, some prime oil having changed hands at \$32.00. Prime non-freezing Newfoundland is nominal at \$34.00.

ERGOT.—Russian is quiet at 36c. and Spanish at 37c.

GOLDEN SEAL (HYDRASTIS) is in some inquiry at \$1.65.

JAPAN WAX is weak, and quotations are down to 10½c.

MENTHOL.—Stocks are sufficient to supply wants for a long time to come, and quotations are weak. Supplies could be bought in a limited way at \$2.00.

PEPPERMINT OIL is dull and neglected. Bulk oil is nominally quoted at \$3.10, but less will buy.

OPUM is quiet and slow of sale at \$2.97½ per lb.

SARSAPARILLA.—Mexican is down to 9c. owing to free arrivals. Goods to arrive could be bought at a lower figure still.

Arrivals.

The following drugs, chemicals, etc., have arrived at the principal ports of the United Kingdom from March 23 to 29, inclusive: Acetone (@ Stettin), 14; acid, acetic, (@ Terneuzen) 65 cbs. 8 brls., (@ Fredrikstad) 50 cbs.; acid, boric, 80; acid, carbolic, 34; annatto (@ Jamaica), 56; argol, (@ Naples) 94, (@ Bordeaux) 50; arrowroot, (@ Natal) 125 cs., (@ St. Vincent) 50; 819 brls.; argol (@ Leghorn), 47; balsam (@ Cartagena) 23, (@ Maranhão) 3; bleaching powder (@ Hamburg), 210; bromine (@ Hamburg), 167; buchu, 8; Calabar beans, 19; calamus root (@ Amsterdam), 5; calcium carbide (@ Havre), 104; cardamoms, (@ Hamburg) 11 cs., (@ Calicut) 48, (@ Colombo) 44; cascara sagrada (@ New York), 406; cinchona, (@ Guayaquil) 50, (@ Antofagasta) 30, (@ Amsterdam) 79; citrate of lime, (@ Syracuse) 22, (@ Messina) 89; coca leaves, (@ Hamburg) 117 brls.; cuttlefish bone (@ Bombay), 161; drugs (@ Hamburg), 36 pkgs.; galls (@ Smyrna) 30, (@ Persia) 62; ginger, (@ W.C. Africa) 467 bgs., (@ Jamaica) 185, (@ Calicut) 99; glycerin (@ Hamburg), 41; honey, (@ New York) 25 cs., (@ Jamaica) 357 pkgs.,

(@ Galveston) 30; juniper berries (@ Leghorn), 18; lime juice, (@ Antigua) 11 pkgs., (@ Dominica) 10 pkgs., (@ Jamaica) 14 pns.; liquorice (@ Bursch), 600 *in tr.*; nux vomica, (@ Calcutta) 400, (@ Calicut) 59; oil, cod-liver, (@ Amsterdam) 57 cks., (@ Rotterdam) 50 cs., (@ Aalsund) 225, (@ Bergen) 45, (@ Christiansand) 10; oil, eucalyptus (@ Hamburg), 62; oils, essential, (@ Messina) 87, (@ Palermo) 33; opium, (@ Smyrna) 15, (@ Marseilles) 8; roots, (@ Hamburg) 16, (@ Antwerp) 23; otto of roses (@ Constantinople), 2 cs.; petrolatum (@ New York), 12; sarsaparilla (@ Panama), 24; senna (@ Alexandria), 10 bls.; soda crystals (@ Antwerp), 1,215 cks.; sugar of lead (@ Stettin), 42; sugar of milk (@ Amsterdam), 10; tamarinds, (@ Calcutta) 100 cks., (@ Barbados), 25; tartar, (@ Leghorn) 23 cks., (@ Messina) 44, (@ Bordeaux) 63; wax, bees' (@ Calcutta) 79, (@ Bombay) 17; wine-lees, (@ Messina) 775 bgs., (@ Marsala) 814.

The following drugs, chemicals, etc., have arrived at the principal ports of the United Kingdom from March 30 to April 5, inclusive: Acetone (@ Fiume), 64 dms.; acid, carbolic (@ Rotterdam), 50 cs.; acid, lactic (@ Hamburg), 24; anisced (@ Spain), 40; antimony, crude (@ Shanghai), 500 cs.; arrowroot (@ St. Vincent), 803; arsenic (@ Oporto), 139; asafetida (@ Aden), 23; benzoin (@ Singapore), 66; bismuth (@ Sydney), 21 cs.; borax, (@ Antofagasta) 3,000, (@ Mollendo) 2,345; buchu (@ Cape Town), 120; camphor (@ Kobe), 50 cs.; cardamoms, 245; chamomiles (@ Ghent), 21; chillies (@ Hamburg), 337; cinchona (@ Colombo), 84; cloves (@ Hamburg), 797; coca-leaves (@ Colombo), 12; cocaine (@ Rangoon), 40 cs.; cream of tartar (@ Marseilles), 26; dill seed (@ Bombay), 180; drugs (@ Bremen), 15; fennugreek seed (@ Casablanca), 100; glycerin (@ Sydney), 50 drms.; ginger (@ Hong Kong), 227; honey and beeswax, (@ St. John, N.S.) 84 pkgs., (@ Sydney) 77cs.; iodine, (@ Valparaiso) 93 kegs, (@ Japan) 10 cs.; ipecacuanha, (@ Singapore) 34 bgs., (@ Monte Video) 7; lemon juice (@ Messina), 70 pps.; menthol, (@ Yokohama) 75 cs. *in tr.*, (@ Kobe) 15 cs., (@ Bremen) 25; nux vomica (@ Madras), 511 bgs.; oil, castor, (@ Calcutta) 149 cs., (@ Genoa) 60, (@ Leghorn) 15; oil, chaulmoogra (@ Calcutta), 10; oil, cod liver, (@ Aalesund) 284, (@ Bergen) 54; oil, eucalyptus (@ Adelaide) 40 cs.; oil, peppermint, (@ Yokohama) 50 cs. *in tr.*, (@ Bremen) 25; oil, wood (@ Shanghai) 29; oils, essential, (@ Messina) 165 pkgs., (@ Palermo) 35, (@ Hong Kong) 50 bxs., (@ Singapore) 65 cs.; opium (@ Smyrna), 25 cs.; orris (@ Leghorn), 31; patchouli (@ Singapore), 42 bls.; potash chlor. (@ Gothenburg), 150; quillaia, (@ Talcahuano) 115, (@ Valparaiso), 52; rhatany (@ Eten), 15; sandarac (@ Mogador), 179; senna (@ Alexandria), 130 bls.; soda crystals (@ Ghent), 400; sulphur, (@ Sicily) 1,300, (@ Japan) 10 bgs.; tartar, (@ Messina) 15, (@ Algiers) 827; tartar emetic (@ Hamburg), 29; turmeric (@ Bombay), 50; wax, bees' (@ Calcutta) 15, (@ Mogador) 11, (@ Australia) 10, (@ Boston) 16; wax, carnauba (@ Pernambuco), 250 bgs.; wax, Japanese (@ Kobe), 50 cs.; wine lees, (@ Palermo) 417, (@ Oporto) 245, (@ Lisbon) 425; wood spirit, (@ Fiume) 20 dms., (@ New York), 200.

Java Government Cinchona.

The report of the Java Government cinchona-plantations for the last quarter of 1904 states that in all the estates, with the exception of Lembang, the rainfall and the number of rainy days was greater than the average for the corresponding period of the last six years. On the Rioeng Goenoeng estate, rain observations had been taken since the month of July, and the rainfall was the greatest and reached a level seldom observed in Java. The west monsoon, which already in mid-September opened very strong, modified its intensity during November, and was interrupted by an interval of ten days' severe drought, which sadly prejudiced the new plantings with which work was begun at the beginning of that month. In the month of December, however, heavy rain again fell, but accompanied by heavy storms and squalls which considerably damaged the plants. A large number of cinchonaires were uprooted during the quarter, and the harvest of trunk and branch bark amounted to 18,708 kilos., and of root-bark to 9944 kilos. The supply of labour again left nothing to be desired, so it frequently happened that not all the coolies who offered their services could be employed. In previous years, for want of labour, a part of the plantations had to remain unworked, but in the month of November in all the estates the operations in the gardens were finished. The *Holoptelis Bradii* was not in such large numbers as some months back, and the destruction by means of sulphur was repeated, but through the continuous and heavy rains the sulphur was immediately washed off the plants again. Still, in a few young beds good results have been observed, but not in the plantations. The *Euproctis flexuosa*, which had so seriously affected several plantations during the previous quarter, had completely disappeared in November, and all the trees had entirely recovered from the attack. In the nurseries of Tjinjiruwan the grub *Koe-cek* did much damage. By transplanting trees to other grounds a complete famine

was, as far as possible, avoided. Also in a young garden of hybrid stocks at Tjibeureum these grubs appeared in great quantities, and caused the loss of a number of young plants. In the Tirtasari establishments at Tjinjiruwan the plantations suffered seriously from canker, and preparatory to the harvest of 1905 people have already begun to thin out the sick trees. The result of the auction of cinchona seed and stocks held on October 22, at Bandoeng, amounted to 14,140d.

Java Quinine-auction.

At the auction of Java quinine on April 5, 9,266 kilos. of Ed. II. were offered, of which 3,221 kilos. were sold at an average price of 16½f. per kilo. (about equal 6c. unit Amsterdam bark auction), against 16½f. per kilo. at the previous auction. The next auction to be held at Batavia will take place on May 10.

Bromides in U.S.A.

Under date of March 21 our New York correspondent wrote that the bromide situation is unchanged. The American maker has not yet openly met the German cut in price, and the market is very unsettled. Shipments and deliveries are of the hand-to-mouth order, and even small orders for the ordinary requirements of the retail trade have to be only partly filled. A new shipment of German is expected shortly. Both sides are delivering in such small amounts that outstanding contracts for export cannot be carried out.

London Drug Statistics.

The following statistics are compiled from information supplied by public warehouses. They relate to the receipts and deliveries of some of the leading drugs from and into the London public warehouses for the month of March, 1905, and to the stocks on March 31.

	March		Stocks		1905	
	Landed	Delivd.	1905	1904	Imprtd.	Delivd.
Aloes.....cs, etc.	122	156	582	871	268	472
Anisced, star .....cs.	—	—	—	6	—	—
Arrowroot .....pkgs	2,424	2,014	9,818	11,078	3,848	4,855
Balsams ... cks, etc.	46	96	589	733	66	149
Calumba bgs	57	77	165	475	57	131
Camphor.....pkgs	624	569	1,193	496	1,820	1,924
Cardamoms cs, etc.	487	602	2,252	1,866	1,210	1,365
Cinchona.....pkgs	992	1,289	6,180	6,082	3,086	3,075
Cocculus indicus bgs	—	5	77	113	—	16
Cochinal "	35	61	156	369	144	179
Cubebs "	—	36	683	1,207	47	47
Dragon's blood.....cs	24	32	32	82	47	52
Galls.....pkgs	31	140	535	2,928	121	505
Gums—	—	—	5	10	1	1
Ammoniacum .. "	—	188	302	456	135	310
Animi "	69	828	6,567	8,280	2,811	4,133
Arabic "	475	80	453	353	580	409
Asafetida..... "	2	226	1,142	1,496	579	484
Benzoin "	218	226	1,142	1,496	579	484
Copal..... "	4,092	5,734	20,941	27,118	22,007	19,611
Damar "	164	295	1,870	2,650	1,099	1,453
Galbanum .. "	—	—	—	3	—	3
Gamboge..... "	16	6	26	4	40	32
Guaicum .. "	—	1	61	46	43	43
Kauri ... tons, net	64	198	795	1,209	431	496
Kino.....pkgs	—	4	82	129	—	4
Mastic "	—	12	7	22	—	14
Myrrh, E.I. .. "	27	1	63	104	54	29
Olibanum .. "	466	174	2,486	1,684	804	350
Sandarac..... "	59	203	444	1,180	236	724
Tragacanth... "	1,033	1,486	4,753	4,569	5,562	4,813
Ipecacuanha—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Matto Grosso .. "	15	19	288	379	72	89
Minas "	6	2	62	109	6	31
Cartagena .. "	—	10	15	65	—	17
E. I. "	—	7	21	11	1	28
Jalap.....bls	—	7	186	117	—	53
Nux vomica ....pkgs	390	321	1,633	43	1,943	378
Oils—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Anisced, star ...cs	—	4	270	218	20	38
Cassia..... "	40	22	119	65	130	94
Castor.....pkgs	235	175	208	727	458	529
Cocoa-nut..... tons	174	81	287	192	397	296
Olive..... cks, etc.	374	177	735	1,120	787	593
Palm tons	—	1	6	8	—	3
†Quinine..... lbs	969	2,286	*202,497	202,627	3,599	9,614
Rhubarb..... chts	—	40	156	211	54	147
Sarsaparilla..... bls	78	55	163	250	207	204
Senna.....pkgs	482	614	*3,052	2,233	1,562	1,485
Shellac..... cs	2,787	7,145	34,237	27,282	12,908	21,756
Sticlaac..... "	174	27	534	342	1	10
Turmeric..... tons	32	59	317	453	61	114
Wax, bees'..... pkgs	541	824	1,190	1,243	1,223	1,717
„ Japan.....cs, etc.	58	184	279	367	356	344

* Corrected.

† Includes quantity at Red Lion, Bull, and Smith's Wharves; also at the Docks.

‡ Includes 104 packages Carnauba wax.



TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Please write clearly and concisely on one side of the paper only. All communications should be accompanied by the names and addresses of the writers. If queries are submitted, each should be written on a separate piece of paper. We do not reply to queries by post, and can only answer on subjects of general interest.

Fairchild Scholarship.

The Secretary to the Committee of Trustees of the Fairchild Scholarship and Prizes (*Mr. A. E. Holden*, Bath House, 57-60 Holborn Viaduct, E.C.) begs to advise that several applications have been received from candidates who do not conform to the age limit stated in the conditions. The Trustees have carefully considered these applications as precedents, and have decided that the fair thing to all interested parties is to adhere strictly to the conditions as to age. This course is strongly advised by educational authorities who have been consulted, and is in accordance with the custom of medical and pharmaceutical bodies.

The Co-operative Problem.

SIR,—Now that the co-operative problem is coming to the front, I think it a good time for the large number of chemists who have not joined the P.A.T.A. to speak out to the proprietors of patents and insist on free trade and no favour, and not sit down quietly and let the co-ops. get all their trade. Have the makers set a fixed minimum quantity to get best carriage-paid terms, and give no one (unless it be regular *bonâ-fide* wholesalers) better terms, no matter what quantity they took? As it is now the P.A.T.A. prohibits associations buying together, because it injures the regular wholesaler, but Boots and the co-ops., with their numerous branches, can always afford to get best terms. Mr. Oglesby says get the co-ops. to agree not to give checks on protected articles. That will suit them, as they will have more profit to divide on other goods, and thus draw more customers by their bigger dividends. My suggestion is :

1. Do away with protected prices.
2. Have a fixed minimum wholesale price on a reasonable quantity, say 5/.
3. The chemists in a town should agree to buy together—one buy, say, Seigel, another Beecham, and so on—and supply one another for cash at cost; they could buy other goods besides patents.
4. Sell goods to the public at as low a price as possible. In this way, if grocers and other trades followed suit, the co-ops. would have to compete, and, if not able to pay big dividends, would lose their hold on the public.
5. Push the sale of your own goods on all and every occasion; sell best-quality drugs under your own label, and discourage the sale of advertised brands of regular drugs (such as quinine or cascara tablets).

Yours truly,

ANTI-Co-OP. (181/66.)

Is Mr. Boot a Board of Examiners?

SIR,—I consider that you have laid the entire body of chemists and druggists under a lasting obligation by your able exposition of the aim and objects of a confederacy which threatens to inflict a serious injury upon the most intelligent and useful, at the same time the best-educated, class of men who stand behind a shop-counter. Mr. Jesse Boot proclaims himself a small shopkeeper possessed of a vast amount of acquisitiveness and self-assurance. Not content with the unenviable possession of three hundred shops and underselling honourable tradesmen who have by dint of toil—not simply labour, but hard, exhaustive brain work—endeavoured to provide things “honest in the sight of all men,” he must needs expose his ignorance of men and manners by a coarse and offensive exhibition of a viperous disposition which has no greater appreciation of learning than the Goth who fired the Alexandrian Library. The Pharmaceutical Society can afford to smile at J. B.’s caricature, and the spectacle of an “engineer hoist by his own petard.” But I would ask how it happens that any unqualified or unregistered individual is liable to prosecution

if styling himself “chemist,” while an unqualified, unregistered man is able to confer the title on any number of shareholders in his concern as so many “Boots’ Chemists”? Is not this illegal? I will not attempt further remark. Let the whole community of chemists and druggists, by whatever name they are known among men, read, mark, learn, and digest the logical manifesto of their representative organ of March 25, and by united effort recover their position invaded by ruthless brigands.

Faithfully yours,

HOPEFUL. (181/68.)

Ancient Customs in Pharmacy and Parliament.

SIR,—Mr. Reid’s remarks on the House of Commons and its ancient rules are much to the point; but why does he not urge upon druggists that the adoption of business methods would bring more grist to the mill than even Clause 7? Mr. Reid gibes at Boots’ diversified trade, but surely Scotch trade (outside cities) in minerals, tobacco, pipes, cigars, sheep-dip, and tobacco-juice will give points even to Boots. English druggists have come through twenty years of cutting and doctors’ dispensing, but their mainstay has been (outside cities) household drugs (always profitable) and patents (once profitless, now profitable). If Scotch doctors begin to do their own dispensing, the druggists in Scotland will have a rougher journey than their English *confrères*, because the Scots have allowed the trade in household drugs and patents to be collared by the grocers, seedsmen, and oilmen. If Mr. Reid wishes to pose as a leader of the trade, will he tell us first whether or no his own house is in perfect order? How often does he take stock? Fifty Boots’ shops in Scotland would open the eyes of men like Mr. Reid to the possibilities of the drug-trade.

Yours truly,

A SCOT WHOSE HOUSE IS IN ORDER. (181/95.)

Tar-water.

Mr. Alfred Roe (English and foreign chemist, 31 Old Compton Street, W.) has recently had an interesting correspondence with the Stamp Department of the Inland Revenue in regard to the sale of the well-known Goudron water (liqueur concentrée et titrée de goudron de Norvège), which has just come to a satisfactory conclusion. Mr. Roe sold the preparation with a label in French holding it out for bronchitis, pulmonary catarrh, and other human ailments. In January the Board of Inland Revenue asked him why he should not pay a penalty of 10% for selling it unstamped, and Mr. Roe answered (in effect) because the medicine is a known, admitted, and approved remedy described by the title. Mr. Stoodley replied to this that the Board consider that Liqueur de Goudron does not fall within the exemption, but consented not to take proceedings on the understanding that the preparation should be stamped before sale. It ultimately transpired that the reason why the Board consider the preparation as not being “known, admitted, and approved” is that it is a French one, and they do not regard any French Pharmacopœia as falling within the description of well-known and recognised books of reference. Thereupon Mr. Roe wrote as follows :

27700/1904 S.

31 Old Compton Street, London, W.,

March 4, 1905.

DEAR SIR,—I find, according to your letter of the 28th ult., that the Board of Inland Revenue do not yet admit Liqueur de Goudron under the exemption clause, and regret to say that I cannot see the logic of their decision.

The Board may not regard the French Pharmacopœia as a well-known book of reference, but I think that they would be the only body of men in England who would express such an opinion. It certainly would not be the opinion of an English judge. If they had asked the first medical man they saw he would have told them different. I think you accept “Pharmaceutical Formulas” (THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST’S) as a well-known book of reference; well, the formula for Liqueur de Goudron is given on p. 538 under the Latin title of *Liq. Picis Alkalinus*, N.F. I therefore claim exemption for that reason. If you will refer to my two previous letters you will see that I claimed exemption in the name of the article as being sufficiently explicit, as it discloses all the active ingredients of the medicine, even if the formula were not in any Pharmacopœia or recognised work of reference.

You seem to think it ought to be stamped because it recommends to cure, etc., disorders of the body, and go on to say that Liqueur de Goudron may be a sufficient indication of its

composition to French customers, but not enough to render it unliable. I still maintain that if a medicine recommended in French to cure a disease is rendered liable, then a disclosure in French of the formula or active ingredients (as in this case) is sufficient to render it exempt.

I am, dear Sir,

Yours faithfully,

The Secretary, Inland Revenue.

ALFRED ROE.

The following letter in reply once more endorses "All's well that ends well":

27700 S/1904.

Inland Revenue, Somerset House, London, W.C.,
22nd March, 1905.

Liqueur de Goudron.

SIR,—I have laid before the Board of Inland Revenue your letter of the 4th instant, and with reference thereto I am directed to acquaint you that if, as you state, the preparation in question is the Liq. Picis Alkalini, N.F., p. 538 of "Pharmaceutical Formulas," and is so described on the label, no objection will, under the Regulation, be raised to its being sold, unstamped, by a qualified chemist or druggist as being within the exemption in favour of known, admitted, and approved remedies.

I am, Sir, your obedient Servant,

Mr. A. Roe.

E. E. STOODLEY, Secretary.

Pharmaceutical Council Election.

Mr. C. E. Pickering, one of the candidates for election to the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain who have been selected by the London Chemists' Association, in his election address describes "the essentials in a councillor," and advocates (1) one qualifying examination, to be divided into two portions; (2) that dispenser-ships in public institutions should be limited to those holding the Society's diploma (the Minor certificate, we presume); (3) and making membership of the Society compulsory. At the same time, he thinks the draft Pharmacy Bill could be improved.

Mr. Frank W. Truman, the other candidate selected by the L.C.A., would, if returned to the Council, urge "trade interests" as the first consideration of the members, and would promote

a more vigorous policy for the protection of the trade in the dealing in poisons; and in endeavours to get an increased number of the more potent preparations added to the schedule as much in the interests of public safety as for the benefit of the craft. Also to create means of checking the careless retail handling of poisons by unqualified persons, who shelter themselves under that portion of Clause 16 of the Pharmacy Act, 1868, applying to wholesale transactions only.

He approves of the Pharmacy Bill, and commits himself to no other promise than to try to do his best for the trade.

Letters in Brief.

GLASGOW CHEMIST GOLF CLUB.—*Chemist Golfer* (183/34), writing in regard to this proposed club, says: "The idea is a good one, and I am confident that success would attend it. Such a thing as this helps to foster a spirit of intercourse among the members of the profession. Could a meeting not be arranged for to be held on a Friday night, which might, I think, suit most? Perhaps one or two could give us their mind on the matter."

CHEMIST'S WORTHLESS CHEQUE.—*Mr. J. Edmunds*, the defendant in a case at Shoreditch County Court, reported in the *C. & D.* last week, p. 518, informs us that he was not aware that the case was coming on. He had a simple explanation, viz., that the cheque was given in payment of a rent charge which he had previously paid to another party, and acting on advice he stopped payment of the cheque, upon which the action was based. The matter will again come before the County Court.

WHAT IS LIQ. TARAXACI?—*Dens Leonis* (180/60) writes: "I should be very much obliged if you would publish in next week's *C. & D.* what should be dispensed for liq. taraxaci. I have always been accustomed to dispense the succus, but am told that in this part of the country liq. taraxaci means most decidedly the liquid extract." ["The Art of Dispensing" says: "If the prescription was written before the publication of the 1885 Pharmacopœia, the succus should be dispensed, but if after, the liquid extract. . . . So far as appearance is concerned, it does not matter much which is used, the fluid extract being an amber-coloured liquid closely resembling the juice."]

WHAT IS TURPENTINE?—*Mr. T. Kelly*, Dublin, thinks that when the public get oil of turpentine in response to their demand for "turpentine" they get what they want. As to the legal aspects of the matter, Pereira says:

"The term 'turpentine' (terebinthina) is ordinarily applied to a liquid, or soft solid oleo-resinous juice of certain coniferous plants, as well as of the *Pistachia Terebinthus*, a plant of the order *Terebinthaceæ*."

The last-named plant, called the "turpentine tree," yields by incision Scio turpentine, sometimes called Cyprus or Chian turpentine. This is probably the true "terebinthus" of the ancients, and when pure is very thick, yellowish, sweet scented, resembling lemon or fennel in some degree, with an agreeable and by no means acrid taste. Follicular horn-like galls are produced on this species, and, according to O'Shaughnessy, the finest turpentine is obtained by crushing these young galls and filtering the juice. On distillation this juice is resolved into a volatile oil and a resinous residue. Hence it is convenient to speak of the coniferous terebinthines under four heads, viz., the oleo-resinous juices, the volatile oil obtained therefrom, the resinous residue, and, last, tar and pitch. Mr. Kelly thinks the word "turpentine" is applicable to one or all of these. Mr. Kelly also gives a short account of the history of turpentine, from which it appears that coniferous resins were well known to the ancients. Dioscorides and Pliny were both acquainted with Venice turpentine, which Galen says may be substituted for Chian turpentine. Venice turpentine, as sold, is generally a mixture of common resin and oil of turpentine, which may be easily distinguished from the genuine article by the facility with which it dries when spread on a piece of paper, and its stronger turpentine smell.

Legal Queries.

Before submitting queries in this department, subscribers are advised to consult the "*C. & D. Diary*," 1905, on General and Trade laws, p. 287; Pharmacy and Poison laws, p. 299, and Medicine-stamp Acts, p. 279. In respect to the last we can mark labels "Liable" or "Not liable" if they are sent in duplicate and with a stamped and addressed envelope for return of the marked ones.

A. W. P. (175/33).—FEMALE CORRECTIVE MIXTURE is not a dutiable title. So the Board of Inland Revenue declared as regards "female corrective powder" in December 1903. Nor is "Quinine soluble pessaries."

Climax (174/16).—MEDICINE STAMP-DUTY.—"Excellent for chapped hands" is not a dutiable phrase, because chapped hands are not regarded as an ailment. Wounds, however, are an ailment, and anything said to be for the cure of them is dutiable.

Agreement (27/35).—AGREEMENT WITH ASSISTANTS.—You will find a memorandum of agreement for use by chemists in our issue of July 26, 1902. This you may have type-written.

W. T. K. (178/41).—PREPARATIONS OF OXALIC ACID are poisons, although not specifically scheduled. This was decided, in principle, by Pharmaceutical Society v. Armon. A mixture of pipeclay and oxalic acid cannot, therefore, be sold retail by any persons except registered chemists.

Dum. Spiro Spero (179/67).—WORKHOUSE-DISPENSER.—Your appointment by the Guardians is only terminable with the sanction of the Local Government Board, and provided you have served the prescribed number of years, and otherwise conformed to the necessary regulations, you are entitled to superannuation allowance under the Poor Law Officers Superannuation Act, 1896.

Matric (176/33).—EFFECTING DEED OF CONVEYANCE AFTER THE SALE.—If the brother who sold the property is still acting as trustee, he may now by deed convey the cottage to her. Such a deed need not necessarily be prepared by a lawyer, but what you call a "home-made conveyance" may be as much a source of danger as a home-made will. We advise "Matric" to consult a local solicitor, explaining the whole circumstance to him and to ascertain what his charges for the conveyance will be. "Matric" could then decide whether it is worth incurring the cost.

Abbey (176/24).—OUTGOINGS AGREEMENT.—You have covenanted in the lease to pay all present and future taxes—"duties, assessments, and outgoing whatsoever charged upon the premises or the owner or occupier in respect thereof without any deduction except for landlord's property-tax." It has been decided that where the local authorities have called upon a landlord to put in new drains they were imposing a "duty" upon him, and that where the tenant covenanted to discharge all "duties" imposed in respect of the premises the landlord could recover the cost of doing the drainage-work from the tenant. Your landlord is therefore right when he says that the word "duties" in the indenture throws all cost of laying in the new drains, etc., upon you.

Hops (182/66).—THE NOTICE BY A JUNIOR ASSISTANT to a retail chemist is the usual term of one month. That is the trade custom, whether the salary is paid weekly, monthly, or quarterly.

Miscellaneous Inquiries.

We endeavour to reply promptly and practically to trade questions of general interest, but cannot guarantee insertion of replies on a particular date, nor can we repeat information given during the past twelve months.

F. F. (137/70).—(1) "CREAM OF TARTAR" FRUIT.—This curious product, obtained from a tree which grows in Central and South Africa, is generally stated to be from *Adansonia madagascariensis*, Baillon. It contains acid malate of potassium and a little tartaric acid. We should be glad to receive the photograph you refer to. (2) Is not the sample you send English rhubarb? We do not think it is a sophisticated specimen such as you surmise.

A. M. (131/24).—BENZOIN AND CUCUMBER EMULSION.—We do not know the make of this you mention, but it is perhaps the *crème d'amande* variety made as follows:

Crème d'amande ...	...	...	2 oz.
Ol. amygd. dulc. ...	...	...	1 oz.
Aq. lavand. ...	...	...	4 oz.
Tr. benzoini ...	...	...	2 oz.
Aq. destill. ad ...	...	...	Oij.

Rub down the almond cream in a mortar till it is quite homogeneous, then add the oil in small quantities, working the pestle vigorously all the while. Next add the water gradually, and strain. Finally add the mixed lavender-water and tincture of benzoin.

Agricola (159/9).—We cannot recall the article on apprenticeship to which you refer, but if you will tell us what points you wish to know about we will answer them.

J. B. (130/32).—COLOURING AMMONIACAL SMELLING-SALTS.—Phenylene and methylene blue answer fairly well as a violet colouring, but change after a month or so. The same refers to red aniline dye for pink smelling-salts. This is a practical point which some of our readers might well investigate.

Pyro (163/51).—(1) COMBINED TONING AND FIXING BATH.—The commencement of a new season is a convenient time to repeat the formula of this bath, which has to our knowledge given satisfaction in photographic businesses for some years:

Sodium hyposulphite ...	...	...	2½ lbs.
Citric acid ...	...	...	1 oz.
Lead acetate ...	...	...	1 oz.
Ammonium sulphocyanide ...	...	...	4 oz.
Hot water ...	...	...	1 gal.

Dissolve in above order, let stand twenty-four hours or longer, and add

Gold chloride	24 gr.
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(2) ONE-SOLUTION DEVELOPER.—*C. & D.*, March 4, p. 360.

(3) MOUSE-POISON.—The strychnine powders act quickest, and if placed in the middle of a room the mice that eat them die before they have time to return to their holes. Arsenical mouse-poisons are recommended as drying up the animals that partake of them. The following are two formulæ representing the two lethal agents referred to:

(A.) Strychnine sulphate ...	...	...	5j.
Sugar of milk ...	...	...	3iij.
Prussian blue ...	...	...	gr. v.
Sugar ...	...	...	3ss.
Oatmeal, fine ...	...	...	3ss.
(B.) White arsenic ...	...	...	3j.
Ultramarine ...	...	...	gr. x.
Cornflour ...	...	...	3ss.
Sugar ...	...	...	3iij.

G. H. L. (Trinidad) (158/67).—(1) BOOKS ON ESSENTIAL OILS. See *C. & D.*, March 25, p. 481, the last-named book being the one best suited for your purpose. (2) The manufacture of extracts is dealt with in such works as Caspari's "Treatise on Pharmacy" (19s., Kimpton) or Lucas's "Practical Pharmacy" (12s. 6d., Churchill). *The Chemists' and Druggists' Diary* for 1887 and 1898 also contained treatises on the "Art of Pharmacy," covering the ground you name.

L. B. N. (161/57).—HEALTH-SALT.—The following recipe from "Pharmaceutical Formulas," Vol. II., is good:

Sodium bicarbonate ...	...	...	4 lbs.
Tartaric acid ...	...	...	4 lbs.
Cream of tartar ...	...	...	4 lbs.
Dried Epsom salts ...	...	...	2 lbs.
Sugar ...	...	...	12 lbs.

Mix.

Quæro (163/34).—(1) WATERPROOFING CLOTH.—The general method is to use a solution of aluminium acetate made by dissolving alum (3 oz.) and lead acetate (4 oz.) in water (1 gal.), the aluminium acetate giving a rain-repelling property to cloth impregnated with it. The newer way is to use aluminium-tannate solution, as it is contended that then the waterproofing is more permanent. Such a solution is made by adding tannin (¼ oz.) to the clear aluminium-acetate

solution. Many of the rain-repellent garments now sold are simply slightly impregnated with paraffin wax, which you will see has the same effect in making a cloth capable of throwing off rain. The paraffin wax is dissolved in benzene (3 to 10 grains to 1 oz.), the solution sprayed on the cloth, and the cloth then passed through hot rollers. (2) CHARGES FOR HIRE OF WATER-BEDS, air-pillows, etc.—These are generally arranged as 5 to 10 per cent. of the value of the article lent per week, special prices being charged for long periods.

Osmene (164/48).—(1) TO DESTROY ANTS that infest a bake-house, steady and persistent trapping by means of treacle, and spraying benzene or carbon bisulphide into the haunts of the ants, are effectual. You must warn your customer as to the dangers of benzene and carbon bisulphide. (2) The seller of a business is entitled to possession of the invoices referring to transactions between himself and his wholesalers.

Beeswax (148/11).—We know of no way to chemically disguise salicylic acid in a hair-wash without changing the character of the ingredient.

Scotus (147/7).—MUSK SACHET-POWDER in which artificial musk is used is made by triturating 10 grains of artificial musk with from 8 to 10 oz. of rice flour, tinted yellow. It has been suggested that a trace of alkali rubbed along with the musk helps to develop the odour better.

Antipyrin (157/43).—GRYPE-MIXTURE FOR CHILDREN free from scheduled poison:

Ext. hyoscyami ...	...	...	gr. xv.
Aq. bullitanti ...	...	...	3iv.

Rub in a mortar, filter, make up to 4 oz., and dissolve therein—

Sacchari ...	...	...	3viij.
Glycerini ...	...	...	3viij.
Aq. anethi ad ...	...	...	3lx.

Dose: Ten to thirty drops, according to the age of the infant.

Cuto (149/61).—(1) RAT-POISON.—The best basis for the phosphorus-paste used for rat-poisoning is a mixture of oatmeal and biscuit-powder. (2) TOOTH-POWDER BASIS.—Precipitated chalk is the best basis for such dentifrices as rose and quinine, but for carbolio tooth-powder it is necessary to use a blend of kieselguhr and kaolin, so that the carbolio acid is kept uncombined. Kieselguhr alone is found to be too bulky as a tooth-powder basis, and hence about a fourth of its weight of kaolin is added.

J. W. McI. (143/42).—BOOKS ON DENTAL MECHANICS.—Richardson's "Mechanical Dentistry" (22s., Churchill), Pearsall's "Mechanical Practice in Dentistry" (18s., Claudius Ash), Rose's "Dental Mechanics" (8s. 6d., Segg). See also a note in the *C. & D.*, March 18, p. 427, about the useful dental book which Mr. F. C. Wardale publishes for chemists.

Vinum (157/9).—BEEF-AND-MALT WINE.—The difficulty in filtering this wine is obviated by allowing it to stand for some months and decanting, but special forms of filters are also used, such as Seitz's asbestos filter or the "Hermes" filter. The loss of colour which results when port wine is detannated with gelatin is made up by adding a little magenta dye.

Chickens (142/34).—CHICKEN-BISCUITS.—You have hit on a useful idea for the chicken-food, and it only remains to make up a batch of the food in dough form and let your baker convert it into biscuits. We question whether the price that you will get for the powdered biscuits will allow of this process being profitably carried out.

N. M. & Co. (Poona) (155/2).—BLACK HAIR-DYE:

(A.) Acid. pyrogall. ...	...	...	9j.
Acid. nitric dil. ...	...	...	iv.
Aquam ad ...	...	...	3ij.
(B.) Argent. nit. ...	...	...	gr. ij.
Cupri sulph. ...	...	...	gr. j.
Liq. ammon. ...	...	...	q.s.
Aquam ad ...	...	...	3j.

The ammonia in B solution is added little by little till the precipitate at first formed is re-dissolved. To use the dye, the hair is washed free from grease, and dried. Then apply a solution with a small brush, followed by B solution applied in like manner.

There are other hair-dye recipes in "Pharmaceutical Formulas."

C. E. B. (175/17).—LEAD IN WATER.—It is not at all difficult to detect and estimate the presence of one part of lead in a million parts of water. As your sample contains 0.02 grain per gal. (1 in 3,500,000) an analyst with a 5-oz. sample has only to evaporate it carefully to get the same result as with a much larger sample. Read Mr. C. A. Hill's paper in the *C. & D.*, March 11, p. 388.

G. T. D. (Straits Settlements) (106/44).—(1) ROMANOWSKY'S STAIN used for blood-films is as follows: *Solution A.*—Make a 10-per-cent. solution of medicinal methylene blue and render alkaline by the addition of 0.5 per cent. of sodium carbonate. It is necessary before use that this solution should be heated for some time, and this may be conveniently done by leaving

it in a tropical sun for two days or in a warm room for a week. To prevent the growth of moulds, 0.25 per cent. of formalin may be added. It is recommended that after heating the solution should be allowed to stand for a week or two before use. **Solution B.**—A 1-per-mille solution of eosin extra BA in distilled water. The solutions keep indefinitely. When fixed blood-films are to be stained, a portion of each of these solutions A and B is further diluted with water in the proportion of 1 to 25, and placed in a couple of graduated glasses. An equal volume of each diluted solution is poured on to the cover-glass in such a way that the solutions come in contact with the blood-film at the moment of mixing. The reason for this is that the red dye produced by the mixing acts best at the moment of its production. It takes about half an hour for the staining to be done. If, on examination, the dye has not acted sufficiently, the film is returned to the solution. If the staining is too intense, washing with water effects the necessary decoloration. Leishmann's modification of Romanowsky's method consists in mixing the solutions A and B, collecting, washing, and drying the precipitate, and dissolving in pure methyl alcohol in the proportion of 0.15 per cent. (2) **RETOUCHING-MEDIUM.**—This is in its simplest form a solution of resin in spirit (3j. to 3i.). It is applied in a circular direction with a small piece of chamois leather. (3) **SPORTING-MEDIUM** is prepared by mixing opaque water-colours, such as sepia and reds. If varnished after retouching and spotting, the work is made permanent. (4) **DE-NATURED SPIRIT** in which pyridine is employed is permitted by the German Customs Department. The spirit is spoiled with 2½ per cent. of a mixture of wood spirit 80 parts, pyridine bases 20 parts.

Rad. Gent. (172/41).—There is nothing wrong in your accepting commission on introduction of patients to a nursing home.

J. W. L. N. (180/58).—Someone has given you wrong information in regard to the BLEACHING-LIQUID mixture of chlorinated lime and caustic soda, probably under the impression that chlorine exists in the free state in chlorinated lime, whereas there is very little of it actually free. In the manufacture of the article the chlorine combines with the lime to form a hypochlorite which is but slightly soluble in water. On mixing the chlorinated lime and caustic soda together with water, the calcium hypochlorite reacts with the soda to form a very soluble sodium hypochlorite. If the mixture is then filtered, calcium hypochlorite is in the filtrate, and on treating the solution in bleaching with hydrochloric acid the sodium hypochlorite is decomposed with the evolution of chlorine.

R. A. (30/3).—The method of RECOVERING DROWNED BODIES by means of a loaf loaded with metallic mercury has been practised for at least two hundred years, and is a variant of still older methods. The success which sometimes leads to the bread indicating the place where the body rests in the river depends for explanation upon natural and simple causes. In running streams eddies lead to the formation of deep pools, and such places are likely spots where a corpse would be caught and retained, hence it follows that the floating loaf may stop in the centre of the eddy and get the reputation of possessing the power of divination.

T. M. L. (257/4).—The insect found in a section of pine is the giant siren or wood-wasp, *Sirex gigas*, Linn. It is described in Miss Ormerod's "Report on Injurious Insects" for 1831.

P. A. F. (Courtrai) (179/65).—TYNDAL'S WORKS are published by Messrs. Longmans, Green & Co., 38-41 Paternoster Row, E.C., to whom you should write for a catalogue.

Curious (166/57).—HENNA.—We have examined the sample of henna powder you send, but cannot find that anything has been mixed with it as you suggest. The tannin-like colouring principle is easily shown. It is possible that your Belgian house supplied a special kind of the drug, as we find there are two varieties known in commerce—the henna of Arabia and the henna of Egypt, the former being the more esteemed.

Z. (148/66).—(1) **SULPHUR HAIR-RESTORER.**—The cheapest form of this is as follows:

Lead acetate ...	...	...	5ij.
Milk of sulphur (P.L. 1738) ...	...	...	5vj.
Glycerin ...	...	...	3ss.
Perfume ...	...	...	q.s.
Water to ...	...	...	3xx.

Four-ounce bottles of this are sold for 6d.

(2) The title **OPTOLOGIST** is open to anyone to use, but it is one of the titles that will be reserved in the at present nebular Opticians Bill.

L. B. N. (174/62).—THE USES OF SULPHUROUS ACID (anhydrous) are as an antiseptic, meat-preservative, anti-fermentative (in brewing), fumigating, and bleaching. The liquid dioxide is now preferred for fumigating rooms, as there is no danger of fire, as when sulphur is burnt. Large quantities of sulphurous anhydride are used for killing moulds in wine and beer casks.

C. J. E. (148/10).—(1) **SYRUP OF MANNA.**—The German Pharmacopœia formula is:

Manna ...	...	...	10 parts
Alcohol ...	...	...	2 parts
Water	33 parts

Dissolve, filter, and dissolve in the liquid—

Sugar	55 parts
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The "National Formulary" recipe varies in the proportions of the ingredients:

Manna ...	...	...	12.5 grams
Alcohol ...	...	...	6.5 c.c.
Water, hot ...	...	...	45.0 c.c.
Sugar ...	...	...	77.5 grams

Dissolve the manna in the water, add the alcohol, set aside for twelve hours, and filter. Dissolve the sugar in the filtrate.

(2) **EGG JULEP** for retail sale:

Primrose soap ...	...	...	3j.
Powdered borax ...	...	...	3ss.
Solution of potash ...	...	...	3ij.
Solution of ammonia ...	...	...	3i.
Oil of Turkish geranium ...	...	...	mx.
Oil of lavender ...	...	...	mx.
Tincture of saffron ...	...	...	3ij.
Rectified spirit ...	...	...	3i.
Distilled water to ...	...	...	Qj.

Shred the soap fine and just cover it with water. Allow to stand all night, and next morning rub it smooth in a mortar, add more water, the borax, and solutions; dissolve and strain. Then add the oils dissolved in the spirit, the tincture, and finally water to 1 pint.

J. C. (149/8).—The Bournemouth formula for glycerol glycerophosphates (*C. & D.*, February 25, p. 331) should yield a clear product. With some samples of glycerophosphates trouble may result.

North London (174/46).—**SYRUPUS RHAMNI.**—The explanation of the cut rate for this syrup probably is that, being now an unofficial preparation, the makers do not adhere to the formula which was official in the B.P. 1867. The correct recipe is as follows:

Buckthorn-juice ...	...	...	4 pints
Ginger, sliced ...	...	...	3 oz.
Pimento, bruised ...	...	...	4 oz.
Rectified spirit ...	...	...	6 oz.
Refined sugar ...	...	...	5 lbs. or a sufficiency

Evaporate the juice to 2½ pints, add the ginger and pimento, digest at a gentle heat for four hours, and strain. When cold, add the spirit, let the mixture stand for two days, then decant off the clear liquor, and in this dissolve the sugar with a gentle heat, so as to make the sp. gr. 1.32.

A. E. B. (173/55).—**COLOURING BILLIARD-BALLS.**—See *C. & D.*, November 21, 1903, p. 854, or "Pharmaceutical Formulas," p. 415.

Laurencio (175/11).—**PATENT LEATHER** is the name given to leather finished with a bright waterproof surface similar to the lacquered work of the Japanese. The leather is tanned by a process, such as Nesbitt's, that leaves it well freed from grease. The skins are then stretched on boards or frames and coated with a linseed-oil varnish thickened with Prussian blue, lampblack, and other pigments. The frames are then subjected to a heat of 70° to 80° C., and when the coat is dry the process is repeated till the requisite thickness is obtained, each coat being smoothed with pumice before applying the next. This outline of the process is perhaps sufficient to show you that patent leather cannot profitably be made on a small scale.

V. M. (162/39) and **Zulène** (174/35).—**BLANCMANGE POWDER.** The following is from "Pharmaceutical Formulas":

Best cornflour ...	...	...	lb. j.
Sago-flour ...	...	...	lb. j.
Oil of lemon ...	...	...	mx.
Oil of nutmeg ...	...	...	mv.
Oil of cassia ...	...	...	miij.

Mix the oils with an ounce of the sago, gradually add the rest of the powders, and sift twice. The powder may also be flavoured with essence of ratalia instead of the above. Put it up in 1½-oz. packets.

Directions.—Make the contents of this packet into a smooth paste with half a cupful of milk. Dissolve 2 oz. of caster-sugar in a pint of milk and add it, while boiling, to the paste, stirring all the time. Transfer to a saucepan, boil for five minutes, and pour into a mould.

Another variety consists of cornflour and powdered gelatin, flavoured as above, the idea being to reduce the bulk of the powder.

E. N. (174/59).—Hogg's "Microscope: Its History, Construction, and Application (10s. 6d., Routledge & Sons) is the book that meets your requirements.

South African News.

(From our own Correspondents.)

Note.—"The Chemist and Druggist" is regularly supplied by order to all the members of all the Pharmaceutical Societies in British South Africa, viz.:

South African Pharmaceutical Association.
Pharmaceutical Society of Cape Colony.
Natal Pharmaceutical Society.
Transvaal Pharmaceutical Society.
Rhodesia Pharmaceutical Society.
Northern District Chemists' Association.
Pharmaceutical Society of Orange River Colony.

Transvaal.

CHEMIST-JOURNALISTS.—Mr. W. Jenkinson, of Cleveland, business manager of the new illustrated paper "Friends and Faces," whose publication we noted in our issue of March 11 (p. 412), is a knight of the pestle as is also the editor, Mr. Hugh Kerr.

BUSINESS ITEMS.—Mr. G. M. Howell will shortly open a pharmacy in Jeppestown, Johannesburg, where he was previously engaged with the firm of J. C. Koller & Co. Mr. Howell has the West Australia qualification, and is registered in the Transvaal.—Mr. Willson, representative of Messrs. C. J. Hewlett & Son and Lynch & Co., Ltd., London, was on his quarterly visit to Johannesburg and the Rand in the middle of last month.—Mr. T. Edward Lescher, of Evans Sons Lescher & Webb, Ltd., was also in Johannesburg.—Mr. L. W. Rossiter, of Ermelo, has opened a branch drug-store at Bethal.

Orange River Colony.

INDIGENOUS-DRUG CULTURE.—The acting Lieutenant-Governor of Orange River Colony recently appointed a Commission of five to consider what industries should be fostered by monetary grants, and the report of this Commission has been issued. Subsidies based upon output are recommended for wool, leather, and jam factories, and for a few other suggested enterprises more or less foreign to drug and chemical interests. But some evidence was taken with regard to the cultivation of indigenous drugs. Mr. S. S. Hewitt, of Messrs. Heynes, Mathew & Co., gave evidence which the Commissioners considered very valuable. He was strongly of opinion that cultivation of the castor-oil plant and the expression of oil from the seeds are eminently suitable for South Africa, where the plant grows luxuriantly without attention and is used by farmers for hedges. The manager of the Central South African Railways has stated that the annual consumption of castor oil in the departments of his railway alone is almost 60,000 gals., and throughout South Africa the consumption is relatively great. Thus the domestic market would constitute sufficient warrant for the establishment of the industry. Mr. Hewitt described the process of expression to the Commission, and showed how inexpensive is the necessary plant. The cultivation of linseed and manufacture of its oil were also advocated. An interesting point was brought out by the statement that during the Soudan war the English market was taking gum arabic at 3s. to 4s. per lb., when in Natal good African gum was sold at 10s. a bag. The value of South African gum was gone into in some detail, and from the information recorded it is evident that if its collection is prosecuted systematically gum may become an important article of export. Eucalyptus gum was also touched upon. The trees grow in South Africa in profusion, but have never been utilised for their gum. Stramonium also flourishes in the South African Colonies, and while it has never been cultivated commercially, the native plants have been used by South Africans. The possibilities of cultivating the plant were mentioned. Other indigenous drugs of which the culture is advocated in Orange River Colony included ipecacuanha, myrrh, coca, jaborandi, buchu, liquorice, peppermint, opium, santal, senna, ginger, caraway, and aloes. A reasonable quantity of Natal aloes is obtained even now. Mr. P. W. Wintle, of Mushroom Valley, Winburg, gave his opinions upon the suitability of certain medicinal seeds and Indian trees for African cultivation. He has experimented in Mushroom Valley, and detailed his experiences with the castor-plant, linseed, and many Indian trees and plants. The net result of the evidence taken was a recommendation

by the Commission that the drugs mentioned above should be cultivated, and particularly that experiments should be made on an extensive scale with the castor-plant and linseed.

Rhodesia.

NOTE TO EXPORTERS.—A consignment of sulphuric acid in lead-lined drums was being unloaded at Messrs. Lennon's warehouse, Bulawayo, on the morning of March 1, when one of the drums, containing about 500 lbs. of acid, burst, scattering the acid over a considerable area. Three natives, including the driver of the waggon, were engaged in unloading at the time, and they were all, as well as the mules, liberally besprinkled with the acid. One of the natives was so badly burned about the face and body as to necessitate his removal to the hospital. It is supposed that the acid had so acted upon the lead lining in transit as considerably to weaken the drum, which was consequently unable to withstand the internal pressure. This would indicate that these drums are unsatisfactory when the acid has to travel long distances or to be stored for any length of time.

India and the East.

(News from our own Correspondents.)

PARSEE ADVERTISING.—Who shall say the Parsee has no humour? An advertisement has recently been appearing in the local Press above the name of a well-known firm: "Eau-de-Cologne. Beware of German imitation."

TANNIN IN BURMA.—The efforts of the Burma Government to get private enterprise to take over the Government tannin-factory at Rangoon, notwithstanding the favourable terms offered, having failed, the factory is again being worked as a State concern.

WRONGFUL DISMISSAL.—Mr. V. E. Nepos, lately secretary and general manager to Messrs. R. Scott Thompson & Co., Ltd., Calcutta, has filed a suit in the Calcutta High Court for Rs.17,000 as damages for wrongful dismissal. The plaintiff was engaged in September 1903, on a five-years' agreement, at Rs.400 per mensem, but was dismissed last January.

THE RUBBER BOOM.—Competent authorities visiting Colombo at present prognosticate a rise in price of rubber to 9s. per lb. within the next few months, says the "Times of Ceylon." Representatives of rubber firms of all nationalities are to be met with in Colombo almost every week, and it is reported that several applications for large blocks of land are to be made to Government on behalf of certain firms who will produce their own raw material.

ACCORDING to a recent official report the artificial propagation of lac in the various States of the Central Provinces continues to meet with considerable success. In the Mandla, Damoh, Varsingpur, and Betul forest divisions seedlac was sown on a total number of 61,549 trees at a cost of about Rs. 490, while in the Saugor division sowing in 500 acres cost only Rs. 11. In Bhandara and Bilaspur the experiments in the propagation of lac were also successful. They were on a small scale, but sufficient to educate the people in the industry. The operations were carried out during the year ending June, 1904.

THEFT AND SUICIDE.—For some time past drugs, etc., have been systematically stolen from the warehouses of Messrs. W. E. Smith & Co., Ltd., wholesale druggists, of Mount Road, Madras. As the result of investigations two native doctors were arrested, stolen goods to the value of seven or eight hundred rupees having been discovered in their house. The doctors admitted receiving all the drugs and medicines from a man named Veerasami, who was employed at Messrs. Smith's Mount Road premises. Veerasami was taken into custody, but took some poison he had been carrying about with him, and died in the Royapettah Hospital.

COCOANUT OIL.—The "Malay Mail" of March 2 reports a rumour to the effect that a representative of Messrs. Lever Bros., of Port Sunlight, had arrived in the Straits Settlements for the purpose of buying 50,000 acres of land for cocoanut-planting. The "Times of Ceylon" backs this by stating, on the authority of Mr. F. H. Grinlinton, that Messrs. A. & F. Pears are opening up some 11,000 acres for a similar purpose, but this statement is absolutely with-

out foundation. Messrs. A. & F. Pears do not use coconut oil in the manufacture of their soap. Perhaps the rumour may have arisen from the fact that a son of Mr. Andrew Pears is settled in the Johore region, but he is engaged in rubber-planting.

OPIMUM CROP-PROSPECTS.—A writer in "Capital" says the valuable opium-crop is likely to be affected this year in its outturn by the abnormal cold weather and frosts of January and February. In Bengal, where collection is beginning, nothing serious in the way of damage from frosts is reported; but in the United Provinces, which have been badly hit by the frosts, the crop has suffered. In Rajputana, the States of Jaipur, Kotah, and Todgarah all report injury to the crop; while in Central India the crop is in bad condition in Gwalior, Indore, Bhopal, and Malwa. Collection is progressing in the Bhopwa State in Central India. There are believed to be large stocks in the hands of the agency, which will no doubt make good any deficiency in the year's harvest.

New Books.

These notes do not necessarily exclude subsequent reviews of the works. Any of these books can be supplied, at the published price, to readers of this journal on application (with remittance) to the Publisher of "The Chemist and Druggist," 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.

Black, F. A. *Terrestrial Magnetism and its Causes*. Contribution towards elucidation of the problem. $8\frac{1}{2} \times 5\frac{1}{2}$. Pp. 238. 6s. net. (Gall & Inglis.)

Blair, C. *Errors of Refraction and their Treatment*. Clinical Pocket-book for Practitioners and Students. $6\frac{1}{2} \times 4$. Pp. 112. 2s. 6d. net. (Baillière.)

Bousfield, W. R., and Lowry, T. M. *Electrical Conductivity and other Properties of Sodium Hydroxide in Aqueous Solution as elucidating Mechanism of Conduction*. 4to. Pp. 70. 5s. (Dulau.)

Fertilisers and Feeding-stuffs Committee: Evidence, Appendices and Index. 2s. (Wyman.)

Harman, N. B. *Conjunctiva in Health and Disease*. Record of some Research Work. $8\frac{1}{2} \times 5\frac{1}{2}$. Pp. 292. 10s. 6d. net. (Baillière.)

McCleary, G. F., M.D., D.P.H. *Infantile Mortality and Infants' Milk Depôts*. Illus. Pp. 135. 6s. net. (King.)

Mitchell, Sir A. *About Dreaming, Laughing, Blushing*. 8vo. 5s. net. (Churchill.)

Perkin, F. M. *Practical Methods of Electro-Chemistry*. 8vo. 6s. net. (Longmans.)

Poincaré, H. *Science and Hypothesis*. Pref. by J. Larmor. $7\frac{1}{2} \times 4\frac{1}{2}$. Pp. 272. 3s. 6d. (W. Scott.)

Sargeant, F. P. *Elementary Organic Chemistry, Adapted for the Use of Pharmaceutical and Medical Students*. $6\frac{1}{2} \times 4\frac{1}{2}$. Pp. 104. 2s. (Gower, Waterloo, Liverpool.) [Mr. Sargeant's little book will be of great help to pharmaceutical students, as it gives in a straightforward way those points in elementary organic chemistry which it is too often assumed the student knows all about.]

Scales, F. S. *Elementary Microscopy; a Handbook for Beginners*. Cr. 8vo. xii+180 pp. 3s. net. (Baillière.) [In eight chapters the author deals with the construction and use of the simple and compound microscopes, stands, objectives, and eyepieces and accessories, the practical optics of the microscope, manipulation of the instrument and its accessories, and mounting. A useful bibliography is appended. The book appears to us to be one well suited for students of pharmacy.]

Simmonds, W. H. *The Practical Grocer*. Vol. III. 7×11 . Pp. 272. (Gresham Publishing Co.)

Simon, C. E. *Text-book of Physiological Chemistry*. 2nd edit. 8vo. 14s. net. (Churchill.)

Smith, A. B. *Poisonous Plants of all Countries*. Active chemical principles which they contain; toxic symptoms produced by each group. 8vo. Pp. 104. 2s. 6d. net. (Simpkin.)

Taylor, A. *Sanitary Inspector's Handbook*. 4th ed. $7\frac{1}{2} \times 4\frac{1}{2}$. Pp. 468. 6s. (H. K. Lewis.)

The Medical Annual: Year-book of Treatment and Practitioner's Index, 1905. 6×9 . Pp. 704. 7s. 6d. Stereoscopes 2s. and 2s. 6d. (Wright.)

Wansbrough, T. P., *The Case for Partnership Assurance*. $6\frac{1}{2} \times 9\frac{1}{2}$. Pp. 31. 1s. 6d. (Layton.)

THE Governor of New Zealand issued an Order (No. 171) on January 21 last, under which a duty of 1d. per lb. is leviable on "Bush's cream of tartar" (being a substitute for cream of tartar) on importation into the Colony.

Colonial and Foreign News.

TOOTH-BRUSHES and tooth-powder are to be supplied to all the inmates of the Austrian prisons.

PATENTS IN SWITZERLAND.—The proposal to extend the patent law of Switzerland to chemical processes was put to the people's vote on March 19, and accepted, with about 190,000 votes against 80,000. All the cantons, with the exception of the semi-canton Inner-Appenzell, have accepted the alteration. Even Basel, which has a special interest in maintaining exemption, had a majority of 5,000. It is therefore now possible for foreign holders of patents of chemical processes to patent their discoveries in Switzerland.

NORWEGIAN CUSTOMS TARIFF.—At a secret sitting on March 30, the Storting, in anticipation of the proposed general revision of the Customs tariff, raised the duty on cocoa-beans and cocoa-shell from 5 to 15 öre, and that on cocoa in cakes, blocks, or the like (chocolate) from 40 to 45 öre per kilo. The duty on unsweetened cocoa powder was reduced from 40 to 35 öre. The Storting decided that, pending the completion of the general revision of the tariff, all other Customs-duties should remain unchanged until after April 1. The reason for dealing with the above duties by way of anticipation is the belief that considerable supplies are at present stored in bonded warehouses.

IMPERIAL POSTAGE CHARGES.—The speeches of Sir George Drummond, Sir Mackenzie Bowell, Sir Richard Cartwright, and the Hon. Mr. Scott in the debate in the Canadian Senate on postal anomalies and their effects have been reprinted in pamphlet form and distributed in this country. The question arose in connection with the postage of newspapers, magazines, and periodicals, which Canada conveys to England at the rate of $\frac{1}{2}$ c. per lb., while the rate from England to Canada is 8c. per lb., and the rate from the United States to Canada is 1c. per lb. Sir George Drummond moved:

That the attention of the Government be directed to the local, foreign, and Imperial postal charges with the view to remedying certain inequalities therein, and the Senate affirms the principle that the conveyance of letters, newspapers, books, periodicals, etc., should be at a lower scale of charges within the Empire than at the time ruling with any foreign country.

All the speakers agreed that the Imperial charges were merely fostering the sale of American periodicals in Canada, and the motion was unanimously passed.

RUSSIAN ITEMS.—According to the "Kievlian" the Kieff pharmacies had to be worked during the strikes by the military chemists, and the pressure on them was so great that only prescriptions for serious cases could be dispensed.—The "Pharmatzevitcheskii Journal" says that the chemical-business in Moscow is excessively dull.—The "Odessa Novosti" says that the result of the agreement between the proprietors and assistants in the town pharmacies will be an average annual increase of 150% in the cost of running these pharmacies.—The committee of the Moscow branch of the Pirogoff Medical Association has been advised of a new serum prepared by the chemist Averkieff for the cure of cholera, and the committee has invited him to submit it for investigation in the hospitals.—The pharmacists of St. Petersburg and Moscow have presented a petition to the President of the Council of Ministers, M. Witte, on the subject of overwork, from which they submit that the public, as well as they themselves, suffer. They assure him, *inter alia*, that not to speak of mistakes that pass unobserved, there are many cases of poisoning due entirely to the long abnormal working day and the conditions under which pharmacists' assistants have to work. They appeal for legal intervention on their behalf. The justice of their request may be inferred from a paragraph in the "Sviet," which states that some days ago the assistants in the Isaakieff pharmacy struck work because the proprietor of that establishment reduced the wages, although he had undertaken to introduce the double shift with full rates of wages. Also the proprietor of the Puschkin pharmacy, named Haakel, is reported by the "Novoe Vremya" to be modifying the agreement in a more practical way. He is discharging his hands one by one, and replacing them by selections from the many new arrivals from the provinces—and on his own terms.